



Tree Safety Overview

General Tree Work Safety Procedures

- Each crew must have a qualified foreman/supervisor on site at all time with authority to safely direct the work activities of the crew.
- Each crew member shall be made aware of slip trip and fall hazards on the job site. Clear pathways shall be established, and workers shall never carry any materials or equipment that prevent them from adequately seeing their pathway.
- A pre-hazard assessment will be completed prior to doing any ground work on ROE property. During this hazard assessment, the foreman will instruct the crew on what each person's responsibilities are. The foreman shall receive an acknowledgement that each employee understands the plan and the role in which they will play. The foreman will also review any dangers that may be present including overhead lines (power, cable, and phone), tripping hazards, proper lifting techniques, etc...
- All accidents or incidents no matter how big or small shall be reported to the onsite crew leader immediately.
- Weekly toolbox meetings shall be held on Monday's at all crew sites to discuss accidents or incidents from the previous week, plan of action of the following work week, and to make sure employees are fit for duty.
- If working in vicinity of roadways crews must set up proper traffic control to give vehicular traffic fair warning that work is being performed. If flaggers are needed they must wear proper PPE.



- A minimum of 2 employees on each crew needs to be certified in first aid and CPR.
- Before any work begins the crew, foreman must locate and inform workers on where the closest hospital is located and the directions on how to get there.
- Proper work attire and PPE: All workers shall wear long work pants, shirts with a minimum 4" sleeve, and good leather work boots. Also, workers must wear reflective safety vest (exception: chain saw operators), hardhats, ANSI approved safety glasses, hearing protection where noise exceeds 85 decibels, and gloves.
- At no time will any worker be allowed to engage a tree, or a portion of a tree that is suspended by a crane. A tag line shall be utilized to safely lower the tree or portion of the tree to the ground for safe disposal.
- Aerial rescue for employees shall be planned in advance, and all members of the crew shall be made aware of the plan for rescue prior to any employee ascending a tree. The crew will reference ANSI Z133.1-2006 Appendix F for guidance.
- Chainsaws used during operations will be inspected per the manufacturer's recommendations prior to use. If any deficiency is found during the inspection, the chainsaw will be tagged out of service, and will either be fixed per manufacturer's recommendations; or the chainsaw will be effectively removed from service and disposed.
- Before felling a tree, the feller will perform a 360 view of the area, ensuring that the tree will not fall on anyone, or any property. Additionally, the feller will ensure that the tree being felled will not impact any other trees, causing them to fall or cause hazard to any surrounding employee. Personnel will reference ANSI Z133.1-2006. No personnel shall work below where operations are taking place. All personnel will work uphill of felling and equipment operations.
- The feller will check the soundness of other trees in the area before beginning operations. The crew and site foreman will also inspect the tree and surrounding trees to ensure that soft or uneven ground does not present a hazard to the crew when removing the tree. The crew members will also inspect the trees around the tree to be removed to ensure that soft or uneven ground will not adversely impact other trees or the operations.
- All personnel not directly involved in the felling of the tree will be adequate distance away to ensure their safety. This includes adequate distance from hazardous trees near the operation.
- Employees will protect themselves from kickback by following guidelines for safe felling established in ANSI Z133.1-2006.
- Crew members shall be trained in recognizing hostile personnel and dangerous animals, and will notify PGE immediately and suspend work operations until safe. Crew supervision will analyze the area if in a potential high crime zone for safety.
- Each crew member will analyze their work area, and work with the site foreman to assess any downed trees in the work area that might impact operations. The downed trees will be assessed for stability, relationship to the worker's immediate operations, and any impact that weather or other environmental considerations might have on the downed tree. No worker shall be allowed to work in an area that contains any hazardous downed trees. The assessment by the crew and site foreman will be noted on the Pre-Task Plan.
- Each crew member and site foreman will carefully inspect any electrical equipment prior to use or prior to working in the proximity of electrical equipment. Any electrical



equipment that is used on the site will be inspected prior to use, and tagged out as defective if there are deficiencies found. Electrical equipment, including power lines and conductors, will be inspected in the work area prior to beginning operations. If there are deficiencies found during the inspection of the work area, no work will begin until the area has been made safe by qualified personnel. The assessment by the crew and site foreman will be noted on the Pre-Task Plan.

- Any chemicals used on the site will be used in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. Each crew will have applicable SDS' on site for any chemical that they might utilize. Additionally, each crew member will be trained on the proper use of the chemical, including all of the provisions issued in the SDS.
- If there is contact with the employee's skin, eyes, nose, throat, or lungs; proper care will be taken to ensure that the first aid or medical attention prescribed on the SDS is followed. Each crew member will have a first aid kit, and access to potable water for cleaning, rinsing, and flushing.
- If any chemical is accidentally released into the environment, or impacts animals or wildlife, the prescriptions in the SDS will be followed, and the crew will immediately notify PGE and MLU. Additionally, each crew will have means to control the immediate release of chemical on site. These measures will include shovels, spill kit materials, disposal containers and or bags, and an effective means of adequately disposing impacted materials.
- Any chemicals transported in trucks or crew vehicles will be transported in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Additionally, the crew members will ensure that each chemical is properly stored and secure to prevent accidental release or cause an exposure to any employee during transportation.
- Any employee who is designated as a climber shall have a harness that complies with ANSI Z133.1 – 2012 for climbing operations. The harness shall be inspected prior to each use in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. If any deficiency is found during the inspection, the harness will be tagged out of service, and will either be fixed per manufacturer's recommendations; or the harness will be effectively removed from service and disposed.



BOUND EDGE	8/12
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Ground chainsaw personnel:

- AAA Tree Service  Written 5/2017



- Workers running chainsaws shall wear saw chaps, eye/face protection, gloves, and hearing protection.
- The chainsaw shall be held firmly in place on the ground with the chain brake engaged before started.
- Operators and employees involved in the operations will be effectively protected from flying particles by utilizing:
 - Proper PPE such as face shields
 - Engineering controls such as shields or guards
 - Administration controls such as the location of the work
 - Protection of the public using a combination of engineering and administrative controls
- Chainsaws shall be operated away of the vicinity of legs and feet.
- When operating a chainsaw two hands shall be used to have full control of the piece of equipment.
- In case of tripping hazards operators shall not walk from place to place with the chain saw running.
- Workers shall not walk through or do any work underneath overhead work without getting the attention of the worker aloft.
- Operators shall not position themselves on top of debris, down trees, or stumps to do any cutting.
- Chainsaws are not to be left unattended with the engine running.
- Chainsaws are not to be fueled while running or near open flame. Allow chainsaws to cool for a minimum of 5 minutes prior to refueling.
- Fuel must be transported in appropriate containers.
- Crew members will reference ANSI Z133.1-2006 for guidance for safe bucking procedures.

Ground labor:

- All labors must check the work area for any dangerous situations that might exist (i.e. tripping hazards).
- All labors must wear work gloves when hauling debris.
- A proper lifting technique needs to be followed whenever moving debris. Lift with the legs not your back and bring the item to be lifted in close to your body.
- Do not try to lift something that might be too heavy. Use a piece of equipment whenever possible or have a chainsaw operator cut the debris into smaller sections.
- Employees shall not walk underneath any overhead work without getting the attention of the worker aloft.
- Labors shall never enter an area where chainsaw operations are being performed, until safe to do so.
- When piling up debris near the roadway employees shall never turn their backs to traffic.

Equipment operators:



- Operators shall be fully trained on the operation and safety issues of the specific equipment to be operated.
- A daily visual and operational inspection shall be performed prior to each work use and documented. Use the owner's manual in the unit for guidance on individual inspection.
- Equipment used during operations will be inspected per the manufacturer's recommendations prior to use. If any deficiency is found during the inspection, the equipment will be tagged out of service, and will either be fixed per manufacturer's recommendations; or the equipment will be effectively removed from service and disposed.
- There shall be a functioning back alarms on each piece of equipment.
- All pieces of equipment shall be equipped with an approved fire extinguisher and charged.
- Before moving any piece of equipment, operators shall do a 360-degree visual inspection of the area to make sure all employees or objects are out of the way.
- Operators shall never get off or out of a piece of equipment with the bucket in the air.
- Operators shall not allow employees to walk underneath a bucket that is in the air.
- Under no circumstance shall an employee ride or be elevated in a bucket of a skid steer.
- All loose tools, chemicals, and equipment shall be secured to the piece of equipment prior to operation.

Roll-off, knuckle boom, and bucket truck drivers/operators:

- Trucks/bucket trucks used during operations will be inspected per the manufacturer's recommendations prior to use. If any deficiency is found during the inspection, the truck/bucket truck will be tagged out of service, and will either be fixed per manufacturer's recommendations; or the truck/bucket truck will be effectively removed from the site.
- Each tire on a truck/bucket truck will be effectively inspected per the manufacturer's recommendations. If any deficiency is found during the inspection, the truck/bucket truck will be tagged out of service, and will either be fixed per manufacturer's recommendations; or the truck/bucket truck will be effectively removed from the site.
- Make sure all drivers are properly licensed (i.e. CDL when needed).
- Trucks that are parked on the roadside must have the parking brakes applied, wheels properly chocked, and the use of high visibility traffic control devices.
- When trucks are entering, and exiting the work area there must be a pre-hazard assessment of any overhead lines (i.e. primary, secondary, cable, or phone).
- All drivers and operators shall obey the minimum approach distances (10ft) to energized conductors as stated in ANSI Z133.1 5.2.5 Table 2.
- Before moving any truck, drivers shall do a 360-degree visual walk around inspection of the area to make sure all employees or objects are out of the way.
- Under no circumstance shall an employee ride on the outside of a truck.
- All trucks must be equipped with a functioning back alarm.
- All trucks shall be equipped with an approved fire extinguisher and charged.



- All trucks must maintain a safe speed (speed limit or lower) through residential areas. Drivers must always be on the look-out for children at play, pedestrians, and oncoming traffic.
- Trained ground personnel shall take control of the lower controls in the case of an emergency. Personnel will only perform this action if it is safe to do so, and they are free from hazard.

Chipper Safety:

- Never reach into a chipper while it is operating.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing around a chipper.
- Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines and safety instructions.
- Chippers used during operations will be inspected per the manufacturer's recommendations prior to use. If any deficiency is found during the inspection, the chipper will be tagged out of service, and will either be fixed per manufacturer's recommendations; or the chipper will be effectively removed from service and disposed.
- Use earplugs, safety glasses, hard hats and gloves.
- Workers should be trained on the safe operation of chipper machines. Always supervise new workers using a chipper to ensure that they work safely and never endanger themselves or others.
- Protect yourself from contacting operating chipper components by guarding the infeed and discharge ports, and preventing the opening of the access covers or doors until the drum or disc completely stops.
- Prevent detached trailer chippers from rolling or sliding on slopes by chocking the trailer wheels.
- Maintain a safe distance (i.e., two tree or log lengths) between chipper operations and other work/workers.
- When servicing and/or maintaining chipping equipment (i.e., "unjamming") use a lockout system to ensure that the equipment is de-energized.
- Personnel shall feed the chipper from the side, and will only feed brush and limbs that meet the size requirement of the chipper. Follow guidelines set forth in ANSI Z133.1-2006 sections 8.5 and 8.6 for further guidance.

Skidder Operations:

- Wear the seat belt while operating the unit.
- Operate the skidder at proper speeds for the load, weather, and ground condition.
- Keep blade, grapple, and rigging clear of the ground and obstructions while skidding or moving.
- Keep head, arms, and legs inside operator's compartment.
- Never mount or dismount a moving machine.
- Maintain regularly used skid trails by removing hazardous obstacles (dead snags, spring poles, felled trees, logs).
- Maintain safe operating distances from other machines, workers, and operations.
- When setting chokers for cable skidders:



- a. Inspect cables and chokers frequently for damage. Replace as needed.
 - b. If using a choker setter, always have the worker use signals to indicate safe skidder movement, winching, or stopping.
 - c. Stop the skidder, ground the blade, and set the brakes before dismounting.
 - d. Always set chokers on the log butt end unless there is a safe way to skid top first. Never set chokers in the middle of a log.
 - e. When hooking or releasing chokers, be careful of hands, fingers, feet, and legs. Never unhook a tight choker.
 - f. Stand to the side of chokers when hooking or releasing. Do not straddle the choker.
 - g. Always allow the skidder to pull loose hung up chokers or cable under tension.
 - h. Always be alert to sudden, unexpected log movements.
 - i. The choker setter should stand a safe distance to the rear and side of the moving load.
- When winching a load, try to maintain a reasonably level position.
 - a. Keep the fairlead in a straight line with the mainline when winching.
 - b. Do not winch at severe angles.
 - c. Ease the skidder forward during the final winching phase to allow proper bunching of the logs. This will prevent binding to the rear of the skidder.
 - d. On sloping ground winch the logs uphill. Never winch the logs across the slope.
- If using a grapple skidder:
 - a. Maintain as level a position as possible.
 - b. Grapple logs behind the machine and not at an angle.
 - c. Raise the grapple before moving.
- Operate the winch or grapple controls only while seated in the machine--never from the ground.
- Never overload a machine. Carry a load that is safe, within the capacity of the machine, and suitable for woods, ground, and terrain conditions.
- Position the load safely to permit clearance of ground obstructions and prevent swaying or bumping against the skidder butt plate.
- Select the safest route. Avoid brush piles, tops, limbs, rocks, stumps, and adverse ground conditions when possible.
- To avoid rollover skid up or down the slope. Never skid across the slope.
- On steep terrain avoid any abrupt turns uphill. Back down the slope and go straight uphill.
- When traveling downhill maintain a low gear and maximum engine rpms to reduce overspeed and possible brake wear.
- Reduce skidder speed when turning. Avoid tight turns under load.



- If cable skidding, drop the load, proceed through the adverse condition, and winch the load to the skidder.
- Be cautious of load hang ups. Hang ups can damage cable, chokers, grapple, skidder and injure an unsuspecting operator.
- **Drive defensively.** Think ahead and anticipate hazards. Adjust speed to allow for any needed defensive action. Watch for snags, limbs, tops, saplings, and lodged trees that may fall on or enter the operator's compartment.
- Know where crew members are at all times. Be alert to unexpected workers or operations in the immediate skidding area.
- Immediately push or pull all lodged trees to the ground.
- Always look behind when backing the skidder.
- At the landing area:
 - a. Be cautious of and courteous to other workers.
 - b. Approach the landing at a safe speed.
 - c. If necessary wait for landing workers to move a safe distance from the landing area, then proceed with load.
 - d. Use caution, and keep track of your load when turning on the landing.
 - e. Winch or release the load only when all workers are clear of the area.
 - f. If log loading operations are in progress, wait for the loader to clear boom, grapple, and moving logs before entering the landing area.
 - g. Use the blade to clear debris from the landing area in order to permit safe worker movements. Never attempt to clear the landing area while pulling a load.
 - h. Keep the skidder on the ground. Avoid riding across logs on the landing area before releasing the load. Use extreme caution when the skidder is used for pushing logs onto the pile on the landing. The skidder blade can be used for this purpose, but the operator should not ride up onto the log pile.
- Do not operate skidders during adverse weather conditions.
- Always lower the blade, release cable, set brake, and lower grapple and other attachments to the ground when stopped. Remain near the unit and allow for proper cool down time at the end of the day.
- Gate delimbing. Gate delimbing is accomplished by backing a load of trees through an open grid metal gate, free standing or attached to trees. This method of delimbing breaks tree limbs from the stems and is safer than chainsaw delimbing. Gate delimbing does pose hazards to the skidder operator.
 - a. Keep the front of the gate area as free as possible of accumulated limbs and debris.
 - b. Use the skidder blade to clear the gate area.
 - c. Use a guide tree to keep the trees in line while backing through the delimbing gate.
 - d. Never try to back large trees through a gate. Tree, skidder, or gate damage may result.
 - e. Reduce the load size for easier backing and less strain on the machine.



- f. Always look back while backing. Be alert to the possibility of stem butts entering the rear of the skidder and the operator's compartment.
- g. Use caution when moving the gate in the woods.
- h. Properly secure the gate on a lowboy, trailer, or transport vehicle when moving.
- i. During gate delimbing operations never allow workers to stand close to the operations area.

Emergency Operations, Wet Conditions, and Adverse Weather:

- Employees shall be aware of slippery or wet conditions in the work area. Employees shall wear adequate foot protection that will provide adequate support and traction for the work being performed.
- Equipment operating in wet conditions will follow manufacturer guidelines for safe operation. The operator will travel at a rate of speed that is safe for themselves and for personnel in the work area.
- Outriggers shall be placed on firm and solid ground. If firm and solid ground is not available, measures such as cribbing, plates, or other engineering controls will be put into place.
- The crew members will be made aware of fog conditions that could impede their ability to safely navigate roadways and work zones. Additional traffic control measures found in CalTrans traffic control documentation will be put into place during these conditions. If it is not safe to work in a work zone, all operations will stop until it is safe to proceed.
- Before felling a tree, the feller will perform a 360 view of the area, ensuring that the tree will not fall on anyone, or any property. Additionally, the feller will ensure that the tree being felled will not impact any other trees, causing them to fall or cause hazard to any surrounding employee. Personnel will reference ANSI Z133.1-2006.
- Before entering an area or work zone, the crew members will survey the area for downed electrical lines. Crew members shall look above to see if any trees could impact lines, are unstable, or have limbs that are in contact with energized lines. If the area is not safe, the crew will contact the utility owner for guidance moving forward.
- The feller will check the soundness of other trees in the area before beginning operations.
- All personnel not directly involved in the felling of the tree will be adequate distance away to ensure their safety. This includes adequate distance from hazardous trees near the operation.
- The crew members will ensure that there is adequate lighting for the work area. If natural light is not enough, engineering controls will be introduced to ensure that adequate lighting for safe operations is present.
- Crew members will be made aware of uneven or unlevel ground. Precautions shall be made to ensure that personnel use caution when navigating these areas, and when removing equipment or materials from these areas.

Biting and Stinging Insects:



Outdoor workers have enough to contend with besides bugs that bite and sting. For most people, bug bites cause temporary redness and pain. But for others, bites and stings may trigger a life-threatening emergency. Understanding the risks and basic treatment can help all outdoors workers deal with these pests.

Avoid the insect world's most wanted

Mosquitoes, fleas, black flies, mites, chiggers and ticks use their mouth to suck blood from humans. Bees, hornets, yellow jackets, wasps and scorpions use a stinger to inject their venom. Spiders and ants both sting and bite. Bug bites give most people minor skin reactions like swelling, redness, pain and itching. Sometimes there is excessive swelling at the bite site. Bites can also cause headaches and vomiting.

Tick bites do not usually cause an immediate reaction, but are dangerous because they can transmit Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and other diseases. Ticks normally attach to humans on the scalp or under the arms. Always check for ticks, especially after working in wooded, swampy or grassy areas. A tick bite might look like a small rash sometimes taking the form of a bullseye.

Don't be a bug bistro

The best way to avoid bites is to make yourself unappetizing to bugs. Sweet smells attract insects. Don't leave out food or open drinks. Never drink from a can or bottle that might have an insect inside. Do not use colognes, perfumes, scented soaps or hairsprays. Do apply insect repellent (follow directions on label). Cover up with long pants, long-sleeve shirts, socks, shoes and a hat. Dress in pale colors, such as light green, tan and khaki, and avoid clothing with bright colors or flowery prints. Protect your hands with gloves. It is extremely important to safeguard your body from bites. Wearing personal protective equipment such as gloves, crawl suits, and hats is extremely important. Screens, tents and other covering should be used to enclose the work area to keep pests out. Be aware of insects' nests. Yellow jackets nest in the ground and in walls. Hornets and wasps nest in bushes, trees and under the eaves of buildings. Spiders prefer dark areas. Fire ants live in large mounds. Insects are most active at dawn and dusk.

Plan an attack against pests

Worksite emergency action plans should cover bites and stings. An individual trained in first aid should be available on site to treat allergic reactions of various kinds including bee stings. An emergency rescue plan would call for offsite trained individuals, such as paramedics. Some basic first aid steps can relieve bite pain and help prevent infection. Clean the area around the bite with soap and water and apply ice or a cold pack. If the stinger is still in the wound, remove it before washing and icing the area by scraping the surface with something stiff like a credit card. Do not squeeze the area, or the stinger will release more venom. If the bite is from a spider or scorpion, capture the insect and seek medical attention.



Most spiders and scorpions in the United States are not poisonous, but some bites (e.g. all brown recluse spider bites) will need a doctor's attention.

When removing ticks, use a pair of tweezers to grasp the tick close to the skin. Pull very gently to tent the skin until the tick lets go. Avoid pulling too hard or jerking, which may leave part of the tick in the skin. Wash the area with soap and water, then put an antiseptic such as rubbing alcohol or an antibiotic cream on the site. Seek medical attention if a rash appears around the site or the victim later experiences chills, joint pain or other flu-like symptoms.

Act on allergies

Individuals who have an allergic reaction to bites and stings experience severe symptoms that require emergency medical attention. One severe reaction, called anaphylaxis, causes a person's eyes, nose, lips, throat and tongue to swell, possibly resulting in difficulty breathing. The individual may become unconscious or have skin hives, severe itching or generalized swelling. This reaction usually starts just minutes after the sting and in some cases may be fatal. If this occurs, call 911 or your local/work emergency number immediately. Anyone who has experienced a severe reaction to an insect bite should carry an epinephrine auto-injector to treat future severe allergic reactions. Employers should be notified of any allergies so if an employee with an insect allergy is stung, they know how to properly react.

Fire Prevention



California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Fire Prevention Requirements

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE CALL 911 FIRST!

- 1 – Fire Cache Requirements:
 - a – One backpack, pump type fire extinguisher, *filled* with water
 - b – Two axes (Note: Pulaski's are an acceptable alternative)
 - c – Two McLeod's
 - d – Enough shovels to provide one to each employee at the job site.
- 2 – Mobile Equipment Requirements:
 - a – Passenger vehicles operated by the company:
 - 1) One shovel
 - 2) One axe (Note: Pulaski is acceptable)
 - b – Tractors, loaders, cranes, skid-steers, etc.
 - 1) One shovel (Note: If shovel cannot be mounted to a piece of equipment, the operator shall be able to readily identify location of their shovel)
- 3 – Chainsaw Requirements:
 - a – One shovel, *or* fire extinguisher, located within 25' of the operating saw (Note: Within 25' of base of tree for climbing operations, exceptions allowed for safety reasons)
- 4 – Spark Arresters:

Internal combustion engines shall be equipped with functioning spark arresters, except for vehicles equipped with mufflers (Reference PRC 4442 for further details)
- 5 – Stationary Equipment Requirements:
 - a – One shovel
 - b – One backpack, pump type fire extinguisher, *filled* with water
 - c – 10' clearance around equipment
- 6 – Smoking
 - a – Shall be confined to areas of bare soil at least 3' in diameter
 - b – Burning material shall be extinguished in such area prior to discarding

Notes: A shovel is defined as having a round point and a handle not less than 46" in length. Square point shovels *will not* meet the above requirements. Also, pressurized water fire extinguishers *will not* meet the requirements for the backpack pump type fire extinguisher.

Poison Oak:

Purpose

- To remind workers that contact with poison oak can
- cause skin irritations.
- To educate workers about how to recognize poison oak.
- To consider ways to protect yourself from skin irritations
- caused by contact with poison oak.

Poison oak is a plant that can cause skin irritations. It contains a toxin called urushiol, which is present in the sap of the plant. Touching this type of plant can cause skin rashes and blisters. This training has been developed to educate workers about how to take appropriate precautions in order to work safely in area where poison oak may be present. Exposure occurs when a worker comes in contact with urushiol, the harmful oil in poison oak. Contact can be:

- Direct contact by touching the sap of the poison oak plant.



- Indirect contact by touching something on which the oil is present. The oil can stick to the fur of animals, to garden tools, clothing, or any objects that have come into contact with it.
- Airborne contact or inhalation of poison oak oils are possible when the plants are burned.

Warning! The oil can stay active for up to five years on any surface, including dead plants, tools and unwashed clothing!

Prevent contact with poison oak by:

- Wearing long sleeves, long pants, boots, and gloves.
- Wash exposed clothing separately in hot water with detergent.
- Barrier skin creams, such as a lotion containing bentoquatam, may offer some protection before contact. Barrier creams should be washed off and reapplied twice a day.
- After use, clean tools with rubbing alcohol (isopropanol or isopropyl alcohol) or soap and lots of water. Wear disposable gloves during this process.
- Do not burn plants that may be poison oak Inhaling smoke from burning plants can cause severe allergic respiratory problems.

Western poison oak looks like a bushy shrub or a climbing vine, and it thrives in California. It is characterized by alternate leaves with three or occasionally five veined, shiny leaflets. In the autumn, the leaves turn a deep red color. Poison oak may also have yellow or green flowers and clusters of green-yellow or white berries. If you notice any poison oak in your work area, advise your supervisor immediately!

