10 AERIAL RESCUE

Use of this worksheet

This worksheet is part of a series of interactive worksheets that has been produced in association with Husqvarna to support the delivery of training for the City & Guilds (NPTC) suite of chainsaw qualifications.

Content

This worksheet covers the following outcomes:

Be able to carry out aerial rescue operations

Understand how to carry out aerial rescue operations

When it would not be appropriate to carry out aerial rescue by climbing

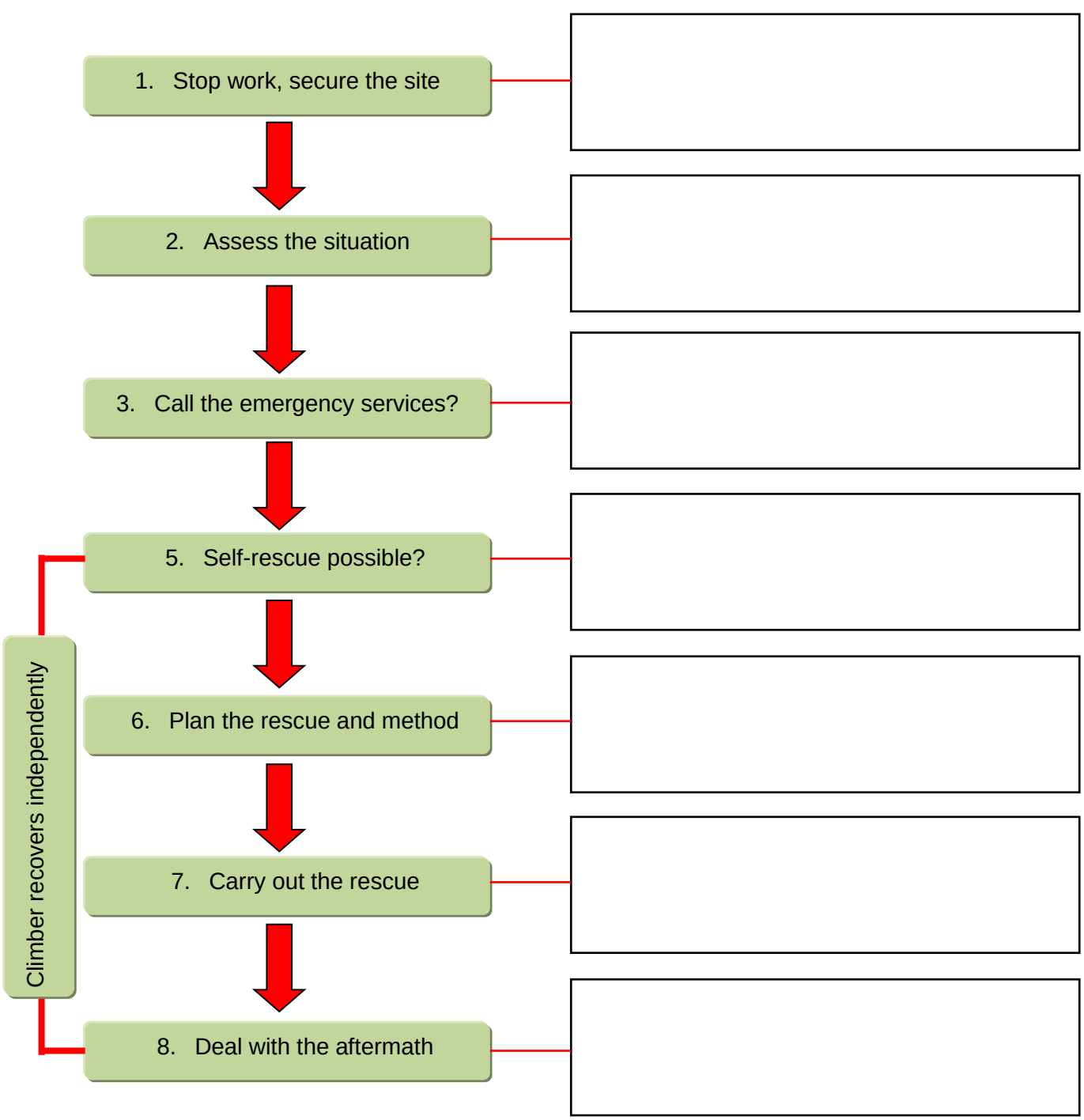
There can be potentially life threatening consequences when aerial tree operations are not properly managed or carried out, and these may necessitate an aerial rescue. However in some circumstances aerial rescue by climbing may not be appropriate; this may be when **(fill in the missing words)**:

- **the tree is in a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ condition**
- **the tree is in poor _ _ _ _ _ _ or _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _**
- **there are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ hazards such as _ _ _ _ _ -_ _ _ _ _ present**
- **there is a lack of suitable _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to facilitate the rescue**
- **where the rescue equipment is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ / unfit for use**
- **when the person who needs to be rescued has a suspected _ _ _ _ _ _ or _ _ _ _ injury.**

The emergency procedure

Whilst it should be acknowledged that each situation is unique, there needs to be a well-established and properly communicated emergency procedure.

The following diagram summarises the main actions. After discussion you are required to add some details as supplementary information.



The key elements of a rescue plan which should be place before the commencement of any work

The key elements of a rescue plan prior to starting work may include:

1. Completing an emergency procedure plan (and ensuring supplementary information is available and up to date).
2. Completing a generic hazard and risk assessment.
3. Communicating the details of the plan to all personnel.
4. Ensuring that all the required equipment is available that it is fit for use.
5. Identifying a competent and designated rescuer or rescuers.
6. Ensuring that a first aid kit is available.

Communicating the details of the plan

Effective communication of the plan is essential if everyone involved is going to know exactly what to do, should an emergency situation arise.

In addition to communicating the plan to everyone on site, it is essential that there is a means of communicating with emergency services and that the key information (such as an accurate location) can be provided to them.

Ensuring that all the required equipment is available and that it is fit for use

In the box provided below list all the essential equipment necessary for carrying out an aerial rescue.

Identifying a competent and designated rescuer

Only someone who holds the necessary pre-requisite qualifications, has been trained and has achieved the Aerial Rescue qualification can be a designated rescuer.

First aid

A first aid kit must be readily available and contain the necessary equipment to effectively administer first aid to preserve life. This means it needs to be sufficient for the identified hazards, e.g. contain a field dressing capable of dealing with a major arterial bleed (as a consequence of part of the body coming into contact with a moving chain).

The rescue plan

The rescue plan for a specific on-site rescue will include details such as:

- **method of access**
- **access route to the casualty**
- **possible anchor points**
- **how to move around the crown**
- **what connections to use to attach to the casualty during the rescue**
- **first aid requirements**
- **route for descent.**

Below is a picture of an arborist in need of rescue.
Read the scenario and in the space provided, outline your plan for the rescue.

The arborist has recently been feeling unwell complaining of chest pains.

A few minutes ago he passed out and has just regained consciousness.

He is 5m off the ground up a 'pole' (a standing stem).

He requires rescuing.

Rescue plan

Different rescue methods

The method chosen to carry out the rescue will depend very much on the situation, the competence of the rescuer(s), the extent of the condition or injuries sustained by the casualty and the available assistance on the ground.

The following types of rescue may be possible:

Method	Picture
1. Using both the casualty's rope (when long enough and undamaged) and the rescuer's rope.	

Method	Picture
2. Using a single rope (the casualty's rope being damaged, trapped or too short).	
3. A pole rescue (using climbing irons and a flip line) making a false anchor point, the casualty attached to the rescuer's rope.	
4. A belay rescue where the rescuer climbs above the casualty taking an additional rope, attaching it to an anchor and to the casualty and lowering the casualty to the ground.	
5. Using a mobile elevated working platform (MEWP).	

The implications of the safe work load limit when using an MEWP during an aerial rescue

The safe working load of an MEWP needs to be considered when carrying out an aerial rescue. Exceeding the rated work load of the platform with the additional weight of an injured climber could lead to **(fill in the missing words overleaf)**:

- _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ collapse of the machine
- _ _ _ – _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the machine
- _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the MEWP.

How to report the incident in line with legislative and organisational requirements

Reporting the incident in line with legislative and organisational requirements may involve (enter the required information below):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

The importance of inspecting equipment following an aerial rescue

It is important to inspect the equipment after an aerial rescue for the following reasons:

- **to see if it is still fit for _ _ _ _ _ _ _**
- **to see if it _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to the accident**
- **to check for _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and possibly _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ the kit**
- **because it is a requirement of _ _ _ _ _**
- **because it may be required as _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ by the _ _ _ in an investigation**

Notes

Published by:

City & Guilds
Building 500
Abbey Park
Stareton
Warwickshire
CV8 2LY

T +44 (0)24 7685 7300
F +44 (0)24 7669 6128
www.nptc.org.uk
e-mail: information@cityandguilds.com

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