



CABLE LOGGING

What is Cable Logging?

Cable logging uses a system of cables to move logs or whole trees from the cutting unit to a designated roadside area (landing). This system is used on sites that are too steep for ground-based operations.

Capabilities

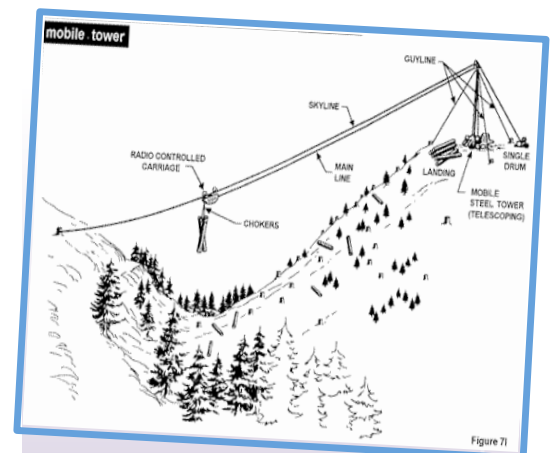
- Allows the tree to be partially suspended above the ground during removal from the forest.
- Trees can be cut mechanically, or by hand, depending on the terrain, and then are removed with the cable system.

Limitations

- The distance a cable logging system can operate is limited by the amount of cable stored on their drums, generally less than 2000 feet.
- Requires a cleared corridor so logs can be brought to a designated roadside landing.
- Trees within corridors, including snags (standing dead trees), must be removed to allow for operability and protect those working on the site.

Advantages

- Allows for harvesting on sites that are inoperable (steep, rocky terrain) for ground-based equipment.
- Less soil disturbance than ground based equipment.
- Less noise disturbance than helicopter logging.
- Allows for the removal of all material including branches and treetops.



Cable logging diagram

Costs

- Higher than mechanized ground based harvesting
- Less than helicopter logging



"Carriage" used to lift and move trees

FWPP Project

- Approximately 414 acres (5% of treated acres) is planned for cable logging.
- Logging will not occur within the view shed of Flagstaff or in Mexican spotted owl protected habitat.
- Cable corridors will be limited to approximately 12 feet wide - tree canopies will likely intrude into the corridor, thereby partially screening it.



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