



GROUND BASED LOGGING

What is Ground Based Logging?

Ground based harvest systems typically consist of several machines that perform specialized functions:

1. A feller-buncher cuts the trees and places them into bunches.
2. A rubber tired grapple skidder drags the whole trees cut by the feller-buncher to a roadside landing.
3. A processor removes limbs from trees and cuts them into desired lengths at the landing.

Capabilities

- A very efficient harvesting method with the ability to rapidly move across the cutting unit.
- Capable of moving slash (branches and tree-tops) to a roadside for off-site use or disposal.

Limitations

- Limited to slopes of no more than 40%.

Advantages

- A cost effective method, especially with small diameter, low value timber.
- Workers are protected within a reinforced cab allowing for the retention of most standing dead trees (valuable to wildlife) in the work area.
- Generally the fastest and most productive harvesting method.



"Grapple Skidder"

Costs

- Less expensive than cable, helicopter, and steep slope ground based equipment logging.



"Feller Buncher" cutting a tree

FWPP Project

- Ground based equipment will be the most widely used harvesting method in the FWPP project area. Approximately 5,817 acres (67% of treated acres) is planned for ground based equipment logging.



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