

The Thursday R6 Update

April 16, 2009

In the media

Early this month, working under a memorandum of understanding, Winston Rall



presented chainsaw safety training to students of the University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Community College, and Kaua'i Community College. All costs were paid by University of Hawai'i.

The work supported forestry, continuing education, and hands-on training that advanced worker and public safety and contributed green job development in Hawaii.

Rall (at left) is a Region 6 Occupational Safety and Health Specialist, the Region's chainsaw/cross-cut saw program manager, a saw instructor with 20 years experience, and has more than 35 years of saw operation and timber falling experience. He works at Gifford Pinchot NF.

Region 6 -- particularly Umatilla and Fremont-Winema National Forests -- has a long standing hiring relationship with Hawaii Community College.

So when Hawaii State Parks Department had a chainsaw-related fatality last year -- and wanted good chainsaw training for their employees, one of their contacts at Hawaii Community College recommended that Rall be asked to do the training.

Rall agreed to supply the training, the Forest Service entered into an agreement to provide the assistance, and all costs were paid by the University of Hawai'i.

During the course, he used real-life situations for the three-day class, and under his supervision, the ten students had an opportunity to drop diseased and rotted albesia trees growing in an area close to a parking area.

"One day after the final class, there is a wait list for the next class, said Colleen Kaiminaoao, training coordinator for the Kaua'i Community College Office of Continuing Education and Training," notes a *Kauai World* article.

"I think it is important to note the great interagency working relationship that has been developing between Hawaii and R6 as you mentioned and I am always honored to share the level of saw training and safety that we here in R6 have come to accept as normal," Winston says.

“It has been because of the commitment by so many over the years, from RF’s to saw operators that have made the R6 saw program so successful that it serves as a model for other areas,” he adds.

R6 employees interested in safety tips on chain saw and cross cut saws (sorry, I don’t think we can get you into a Hawaii Community College course), contact [Winston Rall](#), or talk to

local saw program coordinator or instructors for training. (Thanks to Jim Sullen)



www.kauaiworld.com/articles/2009/04/10/news/kauai_news/doc49def901d4a75126591277.txt takes you to the full Kauai World news article on the training.