

POSITION DUTY STATEMENT

DOT PM-0924 (REV 12/2024)

CLASSIFICATION TITLE Tree Maintenance Wrkr, CT	OFFICE/BRANCH/SECTION District 07/ Maintenance / West Region	
WORKING TITLE Caltrans Tree Maintenance Worker	POSITION NUMBER 907-710-9381-XXX	REVISION DATE 01/07/2025

As a valued member of the Caltrans team, you make it possible to improve lives and communities through transportation.

GENERAL STATEMENT:

Working under the supervision of a Caltrans Tree Maintenance Supervisor, the Tree Maintenance Worker operates light vehicles and equipment requiring a valid, unrestricted Class C California Driver's License used by assigned unit, and works individually or with a crew performing tasks related to the pruning, removing, identifying the health and planting of trees in the State highway system. The incumbent may be required to work overtime, work irregular shifts/alternate work schedules including nights, holidays and weekends; may be required to work temporary and/or intermittent varied work shifts and required to respond to emergency situations and calls. May be loaned to other cost centers. This position is represented under collective bargaining. Possession of a California Department of Pesticide Regulation Qualified Applicators Certificate is desirable.

CORE COMPETENCIES:

As a Tree Maintenance Wrkr, CT, the incumbent is expected to become proficient in the following competencies as described below in order to successfully perform the essential functions of the job, while adhering to and promoting the Department's Mission, Vision, Values, Strategic Imperatives and Goals. Effective development of the identified Core Competencies fosters the advancement of the following Leadership Competencies: Change Commitment, Risk Appetite, Self-Development/Growth, Conflict Management, Relationship Building, Organizational Awareness, Communication, Strategic Perspective, and Results Driven.

- **Learning on the Fly:** Learns quickly, is open to change, experiments, and is flexible. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Dealing with Ambiguity (Risk):** Can comfortably handle risk and uncertainty, as well as make decisions to act without having the total picture. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Reliability:** Ability to demonstrate dependability in meeting commitments, and providing a consistent work product. Takes responsibility for individual actions in order to meet deadline demands. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Conflict Management:** Recognizes differences in opinions and encourages open discussion. Uses appropriate interpersonal styles. Finds agreement on issues as appropriate. Deals effectively with others in conflict situation. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Teamwork/Partnership:** Develops, maintains, and strengthens partnerships with others inside or outside of the organization through effective communication and collaboration. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Organizational Awareness:** Contributes to the organization by understanding and aligning actions with the organization's strategic plan, including the mission, vision, goals, core functions, and values. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Interpersonal Effectiveness :** Effectively and appropriately interacts and communicates with others to build positive, constructive, professional relationships. Tailors communication style based on the audience. Provides and is receptive to feedback. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Planning and Results Oriented:** Organizes and executes work to meet organizational goals and objectives while meeting quality standards, following organizational processes, and demonstrating continuous commitment. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)
- **Thoroughness:** Ensures that work and information is complete and accurate. Ensures that assignment goals, objectives, and completion dates are met. Documents and reports on work progress. (Safety First, Cultivate Excellence - Engagement, Equity, Innovation, Integrity)

TYPICAL DUTIES:

Percentage
Essential (E)/Marginal (M)¹ Job Description

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45%	E	Climbs trees in excess of 40 feet by means of ropes or spurs; uses safety belts and other required rigging; trims and or removes trees, using power and or hand tools; lowers limbs or branches by means of lines or slings occasionally fells trees; chips up cut brush ,maintains and cares for tree trimming equipment; uses knowledge of various knots in tree trimming; uses aerial equipment and various tools to perform job; be able to work at considerable heights above ground under supervision of Tree Maintenance Supervisor and or Tree Maintenance Leadworker.
25%	E	Works on traffic control; sets and picks up lane closure, traffic cones, flares, and advance work signs; acts as a flag person; operates the pilot car, backup truck, and lane closure truck; operates a two-way radio.
20%	E	Operates a variety of vehicles and equipment requiring a Class C driver's license or above; including trucks, personnel hoists, brush chippers, buses, tank vehicles containing water or hazardous materials (including pesticides) and other maintenance equipment as required.
10%	E	Makes minor adjustments and emergency repairs to equipment; services and maintains equipment (lube and oil changes, changes tires, light bulbs, fuses, filters, and window wipers, steam cleans equipment and operates personnel hoist) completes simple written records, such as crew daily work records, accident reports, lube records, mileage reports, etc.

¹ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS are the core duties of the position that cannot be reassigned.

MARGINAL FUNCTIONS are the minor tasks of the position that can be assigned to others.

SUPERVISION OR GUIDANCE EXERCISED OVER OTHERS

No direct supervision. May be responsible to oversee Special Program Workers, such as California Conservation Corps and probationers.

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND ANALYTICAL REQUIREMENTS

Must have knowledge of materials, methods, equipment, and tools used in highway and or tree maintenance and construction; provisions of the California Vehicle Code as it pertains to the loading and operation of motor vehicles; and rules and regulations pertaining to highway maintenance practices. Ability to work safe and work effectively alone or with others. Must be able to analyze various work situations effectively and make sound decisions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISIONS AND CONSEQUENCES OF ERROR

Error may expose co-workers and/or the public to possible injury or loss of life. Error may also cause an inefficient use of time and tax dollars through extra expense in the maintenance of highways, or damage to State equipment and facilities. Error may expose the State to liability for damages to public property.

PUBLIC AND INTERNAL CONTACTS

Maintain good relations with the public, Caltrans employees and employees/ representatives of other government agencies. May have daily contact with other public agencies and private individuals in the course of their assignment. Contact may be with hostile public, the employee is expected to maintain a favorable public image for the Department and the State.

PHYSICAL, MENTAL, AND EMOTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Much of this position is labor intensive. Employee must have physical ability to react quickly to errant motorist and do strenuous hand and mechanical labor.

Note: For standing, walking and sitting, along with several other activities, typical duties are used as examples in various situations to give ranges for the activities. Generally, activities can be broken down into operating equipment 20% of the time on a year-around basis.

The remainder of the activity is labor intensive and includes but is not limited to the following:

Standing, Sitting and Walking is described to equal 100% of the work time for a given period such as a work shift. The following are various situations and percentages given to illustrate typical ranges of time spent sitting, standing and walking:

Rainy day where worker is digging out clogged ditches and drains: Standing and walking using hand tools 40% each: Sitting and driving 50%.

Snowy day: Sitting, standing, twisting and turning when performing chain control duty 90%; walking and standing, checking out equipment, 10%

Crack sealing: Standing and walking 95% of the day

Chip sealing: Standing, operating truck, hand shoveling, hand sweeping, spreader, 80% to 90% of day

Paving: Operating trucks, 10% of day. Standing and walking, raking and shoveling, 80% of day.

Litter pickup/patrol: Lifting, walking and climbing in/out of vehicle 95% of day

Flagging/Pilot Car/Shoulder/Lane Closure Operations: Standing, twisting and turning, and sitting 95% of the day

Lifting (Floor to bench to Floor) – Items listed may be any of the following but not limited to: tire chains for vehicles, which may

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weigh as much as 75 lbs. per chain. In the winter months these could be handled on an every day basis; a post driver which weighs approximately 60 lbs.; assist with the loading and unloading of a tire in a rim which can weigh over 75 lbs. Another example of lifting is shoveling material. Each shovel full lifted weighs approximately 15 lbs., and 1,000 to 1,500 lbs. of sand or asphalt per day, would normally be lifted. 80% of this lifting would be floor to waist and 20% lifted above the waist. Installing marker post, at least two feet into the ground requires lifting up and pulling down the 60 lb. driver 10 to 150 strokes per post. Other items include pothole mix, cement, and sealant blocks, superfine, buckets of paint and working stock inventory. Another type of lifting is light pickup – loading garbage bags with litter, which requires continuous bending and lifting. The employee should ask for assistance when moving items over 50 pounds.

Transport and/or carry – Bagged/boxed material, which may weigh 50 to 100 lbs., must be transported and/or carried from storage areas to vehicles and from vehicles to job sites, which may be on uneven terrain. Tools are transported and/or carried a few feet to 100 yards and weigh a few ounces to 50 lbs. each. Tools may include but not limited to picks, hoes, rakes, hoses, signs, standards, flags, cones, guide posts, etc. and may be transported and/or carried on uneven terrain.

Overhead reaching – Overhead work includes but not limited to pulling yourself up into many types of equipment, pruning, holding signs, servicing equipment on the lube hoist, signaling other workers, and throwing/loading material in equipment.

Other Reaching – Includes but not limited to setting cones, lubing and checking equipment, graffiti removal, raking, shoveling, driving, shifting, holding signs picking up cones; often done on a continuous basis, over 60% of the work shift.

Pushing/Pulling – Includes but not limited to shoveling, opening garage doors, hooking up trailers; installing plows, sanders, kettles, pulling on hoses, working cranks on equipment stands; tightening and loosening nuts on bolts. Installing and removing tires and chains; pulling down on post drivers. Pulling brush and limbs, animal carcasses, and pulling chains.

Twisting - The Operator twists while driving equipment and does so on a continuous basis, especially while backing up or turning around while operating a pilot car. Other twisting is done while dragging brush, shoveling, raking and setting down and picking up traffic cones which weigh 10 lbs.

Climbing/Balancing – Is done in and out of equipment, up and down banks/slopes, ladders, stairways, (often with a load of material or supplies); onto steps and walkways to do engine checks on equipment. One example would be to climb on a heavy equipment trailer to secure the load with chain binders; inspect and/or clean large storm drain facilities.

Bending/Crouching/Squatting/Crawling – The Operator often bends continuously throughout the day while operating equipment and performing physical labor. All of these activities are necessary when picking up and laying down tools and material. The employee also crawls around and underneath equipment while checking and servicing equipment, putting on or removing snow chains and tightening or replacing grader blades and other equipment parts.

Simple Grasping – This activity is necessary about 95% of the shift; climbing in/out and around equipment, operating equipment, using hand tools and handling materials.

Fine Manipulation – This occurs less than 2% of a day and usually while writing reports or manipulating the knobs and levers on the equipment.

Importance of hearing and sight – both are essential on the job because the operator must hear directions and equipment, and must see in order to perform his/her duty safely.

Hearing should be adequate with or without hearing aid to hear warning devices used for worker safety, i.e. look out alarm devices, including vehicle horns used to warn employees of eminent danger at the work site. As per Chapter 13 of the Caltrans Injury Illness Prevention Program Safety Manual.

Mental & Emotional: Must have the ability to develop and maintain cooperative working relationships; respond appropriately to difficult situations; recognize emotionally charged issues or problems; and cope with and respond to emergency situations such as traffic/weather conditions and other natural disasters. Will be required to deal tactfully and courteously with public and crew under stressful and possibly adverse conditions. Must be able to focus on precise work beyond the distractions of traffic, be emotionally stable, alert and aware at all times. Reason logically, draws valid conclusions, makes appropriate recommendations, and adopts an effective course of action. May need to determine amounts of materials and length of time to accomplish a job. This position is responsible for working cooperatively with team members and supervisors to identify innovations that will increase productivity reduce cost and maintain or improve quality. This position must adhere to the customer service standards set by his/her unit and provide high quality service to both internal and external customers.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

During the performance of duties, incumbent may be subject to a wide range of inclement weather conditions to include temperatures between 120 and –15 degrees, strong winds, rain, sleet, and snow.

During the winter months the workweek is normally 5/8-hour days. The scheduling at the discretion of the Region Management. Employee may be scheduled to work the night shift to meet operational needs with proper advance notice as per the Bargaining Unit 12, Memorandum of Understanding.

May be requested to work scheduled and/or emergency overtime due to storms, callback, special work projects, or to meet operational needs. Overtime will be assigned per the Bargaining Unit 12, Memorandum of Understanding.

Personal safety requirements include but are not limited to (as per Injury and Illness Prevention Program):

1. Appropriate footwear, in good and sturdy condition, must be worn.
2. Either long or short-sleeved shirts provided by Caltrans, or a safety vest is to be worn over non-safety shirts or coats.
3. Long pants. No shorts or cutoffs.
4. Provided safety gear; hard hats, safety glasses, hearing protection devices, face shields, gloves, respirators, chaps, or other safety gear must be worn when required by the Department, including hazmat conditions and/or incidents

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when required.

I have read, understand and can perform the duties listed above. (If you believe you may require reasonable accommodation, please discuss this with your hiring supervisor. If you are unsure whether you require reasonable accommodation, inform the hiring supervisor who will discuss your concerns with the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator.)

I agree that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree to conduct business transactions by electronic means and that my electronic signature is the legal binding equivalent to my handwritten signature. I hereby agree that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

EMPLOYEE (Print)

EMPLOYEE (Signature)

DATE

I have discussed the duties with, and provided a copy of this duty statement to the employee named above.

SUPERVISOR (Print)

SUPERVISOR (Signature)

DATE

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