



GREAT BASIN INCIDENT BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The intent of this document is to provide support for Great Basin incidents in regards to chainsaw operating supply requests and replacement parts. The Great Basin Incident Business Committee has reviewed requests to provide consistent guidance within the Great Basin for these items. The Committee recommendations are shown below and shall be applied within the Great Basin.

CHAINSAW OPERATING SUPPLIES

Advice from commonly-procured chainsaw manufacturers was taken into consideration during the request for support of specialty operating supplies. Based on the following manufacturer comments, the Great Basin Incident Business Committee fully supports the procurement of such operating supplies in order to extend the longevity of the chainsaws and in order to keep them in operable condition while on the incident. Incidents shall be prudent in the ordering of operating supplies only to meet the needs of the incident, including incident replacement requests.

Excerpt from the Stihl MS460 Manual...

Your engine requires a mixture of high quality gasoline and two-stroke air cooled engine oil.

Use mid-grade unleaded gasoline with a minimum octane rating of 89 (R+M/2) and no more than 10% ethanol content.

Fuel with a lower octane rating may increase engine temperatures. This, in turn, increases the risk of piston seizure and damage to the engine.

The chemical composition of the fuel is also important. Some fuel additives not only detrimentally

affect elastomers (carburetor diaphragms, oil seals, fuel lines, etc.), but magnesium castings and catalytic converters as well. This could cause running problems or even damage the engine. For this reason STIHL recommends that you use only high-quality unleaded gasoline!

Gasoline with an ethanol content of more than 10% can cause running problems and major damage in engines with a manually adjustable carburetor and should not be used in such engines.

Excerpts from Husqvarna 576 XP Manual...

•The lowest recommended octane grade is 90 (RON). If you run the engine on a lower octane grade than 90 so-called knocking can occur. This gives rise to a high engine temperature and increased bearing load, which can result in serious engine damage.

•When working with continuous high revs (e.g. limbing) a higher octane is recommended.

•Never use two-stroke oil intended for water-cooled engines, sometimes referred to as outboard oil (rated TCW).

•Never use oil intended for four-stroke engines.

•A poor oil quality and/or too high oil/fuel ratio may jeopardise function and decrease the life time of catalytic converters.

EXPECTED LIFE OF CHAINSAW PARTS

Representatives from the Great Basin Interagency Hotshot Crews (IHC) have provided an estimated lifespan for chainsaw parts, which may assist in the approval of incident replacement requests. In reviewing the requests keep in mind that many factors could affect the lifespan of these parts including, but not limited to: fuel and oil quality, sawyer experience, fuel types and other conditions at the incident, operator error, etc.

ITEM	ESTIMATED LIFESPAN	NOTES
Chainsaw	260 hours	1 tank of fuel = approx.. 35 minutes
Chain	10 sharpenings/3 hours per sharpening	
Sprockets	Every 2 chains	
Bar	50-75 hours per bar	Brushing will wear bars more rapidly. Pure felling will not wear bar much.
Spark Plugs	Every 14 days	Preventative maintenance
Tank Vent	Every 14 days	Preventative maintenance
Air Filter	Every 14 days	Preventative maintenance
Clutch/Drum Kit	100-125 hours	
Pull Cord	100-125 hours	
Round Files	2 files per chain	
8" Flat File	100 sharpenings	
Wedges	1 per 2 chains in timber	Average. Various factors may affect the lifespan number.
Remote Mics	Variable	Depends on the type of assignment. Fragile and prone to breakage.
Batteries	100/day/crew – 13 radios (9 batteries/radio)	Consumable item