

## Pulaski Hand Tool



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### Overview/Characteristics:

#### 1. Pulaski Tool Design:

The Pulaski is a versatile, two-in-one hand tool designed for use in wildfire and prescribed fire management. It features a combination of an axe on one side and an adze (hoe-like tool) on the other, making it highly effective for various tasks.

#### 2. Length and Weight:

- Length: Typically between 32 to 36 inches
- Weight: Moderate weight for a balance of power and control, ranging from 5 to 7 pounds

#### 3. Dual-Purpose Functionality:

- Axe Side: Ideal for chopping, felling small trees, and cutting through vegetation.
- Adze Side: Used for digging, grubbing, and creating firebreaks by removing roots and debris.

#### 4. Handle Construction:

- Ergonomically designed handle for a comfortable grip during extended use.
- Handle materials may include hardwood, fiberglass, or other durable materials.

#### 5. Blade Material:

- Axe and adze blades made of high-quality steel for durability and sharpness.

### Common Uses:

#### 1. Firebreak Construction:

- Chopping and clearing vegetation to create firebreaks.
- Utilizing the adze for efficient root and debris removal.

#### 2. Tree Felling:

- Cutting down small trees and saplings to prevent fire spread.
- Clearing vegetation around the base of larger trees.

### *3. Trail Creation and Maintenance:*

- Cutting through dense vegetation to establish and maintain trails.
- Grubbing and digging for trail improvement.

### *4. Fuel Management:*

- Reducing and managing fuel loads by cutting and clearing vegetation.
- Creating defensible spaces around structures.

## **Maintenance Tips:**

### *1. Blade Sharpness:*

- Regularly inspect and sharpen both the axe and adze blades.
- Use a sharpening file or stone to maintain a keen cutting edge.

### *2. Handle Maintenance:*

- Check for any signs of wear, splinters, or damage on the handle.
- Sand and smooth any rough areas to prevent blisters or discomfort.

### *3. Cleaning:*

- Remove dirt, sap, and debris after each use.
- Wipe down the tool with a damp cloth to prevent rust.

### *4. Lubrication:*

- Apply a light coat of oil to metal parts to prevent corrosion.
- Ensure the pivot point for the adze is well-lubricated.

### *5. Storage:*

- Store the Pulaski in a dry, cool place to prevent rust and deterioration.
- Hang the tool or store it off the ground to maintain blade integrity.

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Note: Proper training and adherence to safety guidelines are essential for effective and safe use of the Pulaski tool.