



Rumblings



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Safety in Forestry Transportation

TruckSafe Rumblings is published biweekly to keep you informed on what is happening in forest hauling safety in BC. Call MaryAnne Arcand to provide input or get the news out on best practices and concerns in the industry.

HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR FROM FORESTRY TRUCKSAFE!

Here's wishing us all a safe and prosperous 2006. It's going to be a busy one, but one that sees lots of change in the industry, from the top on down. We'll be putting the Action Plan into gear, which means working on the big picture political and systemic issues, as well as the smaller, concrete doables on the ground level – signage, training, radio protocols, road maintenance changes, and so on. On the Forestry TruckSafe website you'll find a progress report of things already happening up to Dec 15/05. Visit www.bcforestsafe.org to keep up on the latest. Here are some developments since December:

- The Coroner's Service is reviewing all logger/logging truck deaths in the past year, looking for the contributing factors such as drugs & alcohol, speed, road or mechanical conditions, fatigue – looking to holding inquests.
- The RCMP E Division (whole province) is training 1/3 of its officers this year in Commercial Vehicle Interdiction, which means the RCMP will be stopping commercial vehicles, doing inspections.
- ICBC, in partnership with Lomak, Arrow and Excel, will be putting safety billboards on the backs of chip trucks by early March this year.
- The BC Forest Safety Council's Qualified Companies initiative will kick off January 17; the announcement and details will be made at the TLA Convention.
- RoadHealth grant packages will be out by January 15. Small grants (up to \$5000) will be available for community-based groups, such as trucker or road user groups, within the Northern Health Authority region, to do something for road safety in their local area. Call MaryAnne for details or packages.
- Forestry TruckSafe and Enform (formerly the Petroleum Safety Council) are launching a joint road safety initiative in the Peace-Liard region, starting with a forum in Ft St John in February. Further details to come.
- Special safety meetings have been held all over the province, and individual mills and/or contractors have started their own initiatives. Kudos to Gorman Bros in the southern interior, and to Downie Timber in Revelstoke, for bringing safety to the forefront.
- Radio announcements begin next week throughout the north and the interior, educating the public about driving around big trucks. They'll be running 70 spots per week for the next 12 weeks on the Cariboo Interior Radio network. Also listen to CBC for safety tips via their talk-back line.
- TruckSafe hotline calls are coming in, and concerns are being addressed.

The list goes on and on.... we'll try to keep you updated as best we can.

A DAY IN THE LIFE..... Haulin' Logs

TruckSafe staff has been challenged several times recently to spend a day in a logging truck and see for ourselves what it's really like out there- so we did! Yesterday was spent in the cab of a 10 year old International Eagle hauling long logs on the Kluskus/Bobtail system into Prince George. And boy, did we learn! You guys never stop working! When you're not actually driving, like while you're waiting to be loaded or unloaded, you're checking brakes and wrappers, doing paperwork, cleaning off headlights... and on it goes. We were on a 9 ½ hour cycle- which makes me feel like we only worked half a day, because I know a lot of you work almost double that!

So what did I see, hear and think? You guys are pros! Radio protocols were observed, only one guy was speeding that I saw, the sand trucks and grader were out (it rained on top of the packed snow and was pretty slick), and everybody observed the rules of the road. Despite having to chain up, the day went "perfect" according to the driver, and we were exactly on our cycle time. But it means hustling all day – not a movement wasted or a minute lost.

Dave Dickson, our ICBC partner, did a log truck ride-along last week and said the same thing – these guys work! And next week, Tanner Elton, CEO of the Forest Safety Council is going out in a truck. We feel confident and safe going out with such professionals. Hats off to you!

TRUCKSAFE MANAGER'S SCHEDULE, JAN/FEB/MAR:

To give you an idea of the scope of activities undertaken by the Forestry TruckSafe Manager, MaryAnne Arcand, here's a schedule of her next three months. If you want to contact her, the best way is email, or on her cell, 250-612-2267. If you see that she's coming your way and you'd like a meeting, let her know a.s.a.p.

Week of January 9-13 – West along Hwy #16 to Terrace, meetings along the way

Week of January 16-20 – Vancouver, TLA Convention

Week of January 23-27 – North along Hwy #97, arranging forum in the Peace

Week of Jan 30 – Feb 3- Victoria/ Van Island, Silviculture Convention

Week of Feb 6-10 – Alberta, finding out how the oil & gas industry does safety

Week of Feb 13 – 17 – Vancouver, BCFSC business; Clearwater

Week of Feb 20-24 – PG til Wed, then Ft St John – Joint Peace initiative forum

Week of Feb 27-Mar 3 – PG til Tues, then Vancouver; Injury Prevention Conference

Week of Mar 6-10 – Chetwynd, Mackenzie, PG

Week of Mar 13-17 – Smithers, Terrace, Prince Rupert, Prince George

Week of March 20-24- Vancouver Island- Campbell River, FERIC Conference

Don't forget the Forestry TruckSafe Hotline 1-888-324-1212

TruckSafe Trivia: Numbers for one 10 ½ hour log hauling cycle: fuel- 295 litres; # of times pulled over empty to let loaded trucks clear- 34; # of radio frequency switches – 8; # kms travelled to get one load of logs, start to finish- 489; average speed- 60 kmh; time on the landing getting loaded- 22 minutes; age of driver-58; years of experience-36; # of sand trucks on the Kluskus – 2; graders – 1. Quote of the day: "truck driving used to be a proud profession- now you don't want to admit you're a trucker. We have to get that professional attitude back".

If you know someone who would be interested in receiving TruckSafe Rumbings, please forward this

