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.

Forestry TruckSafe Director moving to the CILA

After much soul searching and many considerations, I have decided to leave the BC Forest Safety Council, and the Forestry TruckSafe program, effective June 30.

I’ll be joining the CILA’s management team effective July 15, as Executive Director, Membership and Services. My role will be to oversee development and implementation of specialized services for the Association’s members, and also developing strategies to broaden and increase overall membership. Roy Nagel, who has managed the CILA for 10 years, will become Executive Director, Policy/Regulation and Business Opportunities.

The move effectively doubles the CILA’s horsepower to strengthen services to its members, address policy and regulatory concerns, and enhance business opportunities for the logging community.

“In the current business environment, there’s a need for the CILA to assume a greater leadership role, addressing both membership needs and strengthening representation to government and regulatory agencies,” said Shane Garner, the CILA’s Chair. “By adding MaryAnne to our team, our Directors have made a commitment to the people and companies that work in the log-harvest sector to make the Association the best source possible for the services and information they need to be successful.”

Reynold Hert, Executive Director of the BC Forest Safety Council, said “MaryAnne will be missed at the helm of the BC Forest Safety Council’s TruckSafe program. We know she will continue to champion safety in her new role and we are excited to work with her and the CILA, one of our member organizations.”

The Central Interior Logging Association represents logging and trucking contractors and subcontractors, suppliers of equipment and services, and others working in the log-harvest sector in an area that stretches from the Hazeltons to Alberta, and from Cache Creek to the Yukon/N.W.T.

Weyerhauser uses Safe Start program for training

Weyerhauser Princeton put its harvesting contractors and truckers through the Safe Start Advanced Safety Awareness course this past week, in anticipation of going back to work this summer. The course emphasizes four states of being/ states of mind that tend to lead to risk taking behaviours and poor decision making on the job: rushing, frustration, fatigue and complacency. These ‘states’ contribute to four major critical errors which increase the risk of injury:
• Eyes on Task
• Mind on Task
• Line-of-Fire
• Balance/Traction/Grip

One of the contractors we talked to while we were there said that “This is good stuff. We think we know everything, so we get complacent. I think courses like this are the right way to go if we really want to change things.”

Course activities include participants telling their own stories of where those states of mind caused them to be hurt or have a close call. You could see by the heads nodding in the room that these experiences were common to most of the guys, and it brought the learning materials’ point home in a practical and real way. Kudos to Norm Druck and Weyerhauser for taking the time and making the investment to improving safety. And great job! to all the participants in engaging and getting involved in the discussions. It will make a difference for all of you!

For more information on the Safe Start program, go to www.safestart-safetrack.com/safestart.htm

CVSE approved wide bunks routes as of May 28, 2009
Yesterday CVSE issued an updated Form T60 Permit, which outlines routes throughout the province that have been approved for 9’6” bunks to haul beetle wood. It includes the areas of Quesnel and Williams Lake, Kamloops, Merritt, Manning Park/Princeton/OK Falls, Vernon, and Castlegar. For more information on exactly which sections of road have been approved, go to http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/CVSE/ctm/Forms/PDF/T-60.pdf

Differences between CVSE vs WSBC log truck compliance requirements
We had CVSE inspector Ivor Marriott look at their log truck compliance requirements and compare them to WorkSafeBC’s last week. Ivor came back with an interesting list, that shows some differences between the two. Log truck drivers need to be aware of those differences, or they’ll end up being put Out of Service by CVSE, or have orders written against them by WorkSafe BC.

Russ’ radio story
While we were in Princeton this past week, at the Weyerhauser safety training, log trucker Russ told us a story about improper radio use, and how he almost died because of it. A couple of years ago he was in his truck on the landing, and the loader was approaching the truck with a grapple full of logs. Russ was watching out the cab window, and noticed that a root was jammed in the grapple, so it wasn’t properly closed and the logs were at risk of falling out. He grabbed his mike, and hollered at the loaderman to stop, that this root was jammed and the grapple wasn’t really closed around the logs. The loader just kept coming, so he jumped out of the cab to wave the loaderman to a halt. Just then the logs in the grapple fell out and on top of him, crushing his leg, breaking 22 ribs, and a host of other injuries. The loaderman, of course, jumps out of the loader to see what’s happened, sees Russ, and jumps into Russ’ truck to use the radio to call for help. And finds the radio on the wrong channel! Russ had been sitting there bs’ing with someone on the wrong channel, and the radio wasn’t on the loading channel, or even on the correct channel for the company he was working for. He and his buddy had found a channel that wasn’t being used, they thought, and were just chatting away on someone else’s channel.

It was a long road to recovery for Russ, but he’s back to driving log truck.

Russ says that he always thought he was a safe guy, but he has learned the hard way how important it is to follow procedures, and hopes others learn from his story. “I’m just a stubborn old trucker”, he said, “thought I knew better. I have a whole lot more respect for all the safety efforts now, and I take it seriously. It only takes a second and you could be dead.”
Community Forests Conference in Port Alberni this weekend
The Community Forests Association Annual Conference and AGM started today and goes through Sunday in Port Alberni, on the theme of “network”. Workshops include discussions on Climate change, First Nations relationships, sustaining community forests associations through the lean times, and non-timber, value added forest products, to name a few. Forests & Range Minister Pat Bell will be speaking tonight, and conference will wind up tomorrow night with a ride on the Alberni-Pacific steam train out to McLean mill, a tour of the steam operated mill, and a banquet. They finish up on Sunday with their AGM.

REMINDER: “Slow Down/Move Over” law takes effect in B.C. on June 1st
Beginning Monday, June 1 drivers in B.C. will be required to slow down and move over when passing parked emergency vehicles that have their lights flashing. New regulations under the Motor Vehicle Act mean motorists must slow to 70 km/h on highways where the speed limit is 80 km/h or higher - and to 40 km/h where the limit is below 80 km/h - when approaching a stopped emergency vehicle that has its lights flashing.

UPCOMING EVENTS
July 4 -5        BC Big Rig Weekend, Chilliwack
July 18-19      Duncan Antique Truck Show, BC Forest Discovery Centre, Duncan
July 31-Aug 3   Vancouver Island Truck Show, Saanich
Sept 19-20      Antique Truck Show, McLean’s Mill, Port Alberni
Sept 23 -24    SHARP Conference, Prince George
Oct 21 – 22     CrossRoads Road Safety Conference, Prince George

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