



Rumblings



A Publication of Forestry TruckSafe ~ A BC Forest Safety Council Initiative
PH: 250.562.3215 ~ FAX: 250.562.9237 ~ EMAIL: arcand@bctrucksafe.org ~ WEB: www.bcforestsafesafe.org

March 19, 2007



Printable Version

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.

What's a guy to do? Informing yourself.

Many contractors and truckers have been calling the past few weeks about different legislation, interpretations of new and upcoming regs by various parties, and lots of "what if?" scenarios. People are wondering "is this law?", and "when did this become law"? It has become increasingly clear that a lot of folks operating in the industry actually are not clear on what's law, what's a regulation, what's policy, etc, and what's the difference.

So, you can download them for yourself, keep them handy to refer to when you have questions, and when you aren't sure, have them in hand when you ask the appropriate agency officer. Otherwise, you're going to get caught in the trap that we've been hearing about from all over the province: "at the south scale they told me this...at the north scale they told me different", and "this officer says one thing, the next officer tells me the first guy is wrong", and worse yet, "I followed everything I was told to do but I got a ticket anyway because I was told wrong".

You'll find the Motor Vehicle Act Section 37 and its regulations posted on the Forest Safety Council website today, along with the proposed WorkSafeBC changes to Section 26 of their Occupational Health and Safety Regulations (the Forestry section). www.bcforestsafesafe.org/trucksafe

It all makes for some heavy reading, and a lot of drivers don't have the time to go through it all, so we'll also be dedicating a section of Rumblings to "this is the law" from now on, highlighting one item at a time and putting it in plain language. We'll be consulting with the appropriate agency (CVSE, police, WorkSafeBC, MoFR) to be sure we're right with our interpretations before we put them out there.

Logbook Template

After releasing the first version two weeks ago, there have been a lot of suggestions and editions, incorporating pre and post trip onto the same page, etc. Attached is the "final" version you're going to see from us. Adapt this one to your own use as you like. To get the template [please click here](#).

Upcoming Crane Operator Certification does not include self-loading logging trucks

As of July 1, 2007 WorkSafeBC is requiring crane operators to be certified by the BC Association for Crane Safety. The new regulation applies to boom trucks, mobile cranes, tower cranes and self-erecting tower cranes. An exemption applies to cranes under 5 tons or with a boom length less than 25 feet. Self Loading logging trucks are exempt because they use grapples, not rigging. To see illustrations of what kind of cranes and trucks need to have certified operators, [please click here](#)

Remember though, just because you don't have to be certified, doesn't mean you don't have to be trained and pay attention to working safely!

Vancouver Island truckers want to know!

Two groups of truckers organized meetings on Vancouver Island last week so they could hear for themselves about all the regulation changes (current and upcoming), SAFE Companies and trucker certification. In Duncan more than 75 guys showed up after work to ask questions, hear about all the changes and give input. In Campbell River, there were more

than 40. The great thing about these 2 meetings is that they were not organized by licensees, associations, or government, or us. Both of those meetings were started by inquiries from individual truckers who said they wanted to know what was going on, and so did the guys they worked with. They chose the dates, the times and the place. We just showed up with the information and did the best we could to answer questions. So great job, Dennis and Norm! And thanks to the Steelworkers for allowing us use of the Duncan Union Hall.

From the Forestry TruckSafe side, we're glad to be able to come and do what we can to keep you informed – all you need to do is invite us. We have several more of these workshop meetings booked around the province, as other truckers have taken the lead for their areas to get something going. Here's the schedule so far – and if you'd like to get one in your area, give MaryAnne a call (250)612-2267.

Adams Lake	April 17	8am	Quaaout Lodge
Vernon	April 19		ILA Convention
Castlegar	April 23	6pm	Sandman Inn
Williams Lake	April 27		Gibraltar Room
Princeton	May 16		location to be confirmed

Other guys trying to arrange something – Barrier/Clearwater; Quesnel

Inquest into Trucker's Death Announced

The BC Coroner's Service has announced a formal inquest into the death of Joseph "Frank" Laroux, a trucker who died March 2006 near Mackenzie. The inquest will take place in Prince George, beginning June 18, and will be conducted by the Forestry Coroner, Tom Pawlowksi. We're hoping that the inquest, which will receive a lot of public and media attention, will highlight many of the issues that you all know about – road maintenance, fatigue, radio procedures, and so on.

The purpose of an inquest is not to assign blame but to identify all the factors and conditions that contributed to the death. The recommendations from the inquest jury get directed to the agencies that have responsibility over certain areas, or can get changes made. For instance, in the inquest into the death of faller Ted Gramlich last fall, recommendations were made to the Safety Council, the companies involved and WorkSafeBC. These recommendations are taken seriously, and are responded to. Hopefully, the same will happen with this one.

YOUR VOICE – We've had lots of calls, emails and faxes about all the changes- some good, some not so good. Here are a few excerpts:

Hello MaryAnne

"Safety" is a word that stirs up a lot of emotion among professional log truck drivers these days. 43 workers killed in the forest industry last year. Now the higher up decision makers are having to answer some questions, so they had to come up with a new safety on paper program... a huge expensive time consuming paper chase. A paper chase that does not help or change any of the basic issues that we the log haulers have been stressing for years. One of the same issues still is ROAD MAINTENANCE. We are faced with adverse terrain, bad weather and lack of maintenance. ... I don't really see how this additional paperwork, and new log books are going to make anything safer. They set up a safety check on an icy road and pay 15-20 officials top wages to make sure our I's are dotted, and our T's are crossed in the name of safety.

The logging truck drivers that I have the honor, and privilege of hauling with on our crew are skilled true professionals that handle any terrain or conditions they are face with. We make it safe with our professional attitudes and skill, yet at the safety check stop if feels like a "prison shake down" designed to pick our pockets. If a driver's line in his or her log book is a little shaky or a check mark is not quite in the box, may I respectfully request that you do not insult us with such insignificant tripe, that wastes everyone's time and puts us behind an already tight schedule.

We are skilled professionals. We make it safe as individuals and as a team, with absolutely no thanks to any safety on paper program.

Hi MaryAnne I was at your presentation in Campbell River on march 15th and it's great to see somebody advocating for truckers thanks and keep pushing. SC

Hi MaryAnne,

I just wanted to thank you for coming down and doing such a great job at our meeting. I have only heard one negative

comment and I think we can just say that figures. The radio chatter today was all about the meeting and how positive everyone felt. I was pleased with the numbers that came out especially on a work night. I think I speak for all of us when I congratulate you and everyone at TruckSafe for caring and doing a great job of supporting us. DR

GOOD GUYS SPOTTED!

Dennis, Norm, Joe, Dwayne, Peter, and the other truckers around the province trying to get accurate information on the reg changes in order to help their fellow drivers, and encouraging others to do the same.

And ALL of YOU! We're going on our 4th month straight with no driver fatalities – through the winter hauling season, with all the weird and extreme weather and road conditions- a record! Thanks to all of you for working hard at making things safer on the roads for everybody!

HAPPY BREAKUP!

Road bans went on through most of the interior this week, and the warm weather is shortening the season in the north as well. So take your rest, guys. I'm sure there's a "honeydew" list for you at home! And to those of you still hauling, go careful.

HOLIDAYS

MaryAnne is taking a couple of weeks off as well, starting Wednesday Mar 21. She'll be back to work April 2. If you have TruckSafe inquiries in the meantime, you can speak to Kathleen Meise at 1 877 324 1212.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 11-13	Prince George	COFI Convention see www.cofi.org
April 17	Adams Lake workshop	8 am Quaaout Lodge, Squilax
April 19-21	Vernon	ILA Convention see www.interiorlogging.org
April 23	Castlegar workshop	location to be confirmed
April 27	Williams Lake	Cariboo Forestry and Mining Show
April 27	Williams Lake	Gibraltar Room Trucker Appreciation Day
May 16	Princeton workshop	location to be confirmed
July 4	Houston	Safety Meeting

If you know someone who would be interested in receiving TruckSafe Rumbings, please forward this email along. Signing up is easy. Just click [here](#) and you will be taken to our new sign up page. If you know someone who'd be interested but doesn't have email, forward their fax number to us at arcand@bctrucksafe.org

~ Copyright 2007 ~