



Work-Related Deaths & Injuries

There has been one direct harvesting fatality in 2019 year to date

On February 11, 2019 a worker was fatally injured when the pickup truck he was working on moved unexpectedly and he was run over. The incident occurred in the 100 Mile House area.

This is the fourth fatality in the last three years where a worker has been struck or run over by a vehicle that they were working on. This is the first harvesting fatality of 2019. Please see the safety alert: <http://www.bcforestsafes.org/node/3280>

Our condolences to the family and friends of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by this incident.

Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

The following sample of work-related incidents recently reported to WorkSafeBC may help you to prevent similar incidents in your workplace.

HARVESTING

Injury Type: Fractured vertebrae

Core Activity: Dry land sort

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

The operator of a log loader fell while stepping onto the log loader's track. The operator landed on the asphalt surface below. The operator was treated on site by a Level 3 first aid attendant, then transported to hospital by ETV.

Injury Type: Amputation injury

Core Activity: Shake block cutting

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

After completing maintenance on a drive conveyor tail spool, a worker was caught in the moving equipment.

Injury Type: Soreness (1 worker)

Core Activity: Log hauling

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

An empty highway log truck and a loaded highway log truck met on a corner. The empty log truck braked to prevent a collision and slid off the low side of the road, coming to rest in a creek below.

Injury Type: Fractured rib, multiple contusions

Core Activity: Logging road construction or maintenance

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

A worker was conducting maintenance on an excavator, with the machine's hood up. The hood fell, striking the worker.

Injury Type: Soft-tissue injuries, bruising

Core Activity: Log booming or marine log salvage

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

In bad weather, a young worker climbed a bow ladder on a log barge in a remote heli-water-drop forestry operation. The worker fell off the ladder and landed on boom sticks (logs on the water) about 10 feet (3 m) below. The worker received first aid on site, then was transported to hospital by helicopter.

Injury Type: Internal injuries (1 worker)

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

While spotting for a grapple yarder, a new and young worker was struck by a log when the operator of the yarder started to pull the log downhill with the grapple.

Injury Type: Injuries to head

Core Activity: Cable or hi-lead logging

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

A faller completed falling cuts on a cedar tree (8 inches in diameter). As the faller moved away from the tree, a second tree (5 inches in diameter), about 35 feet upslope, fell without warning and struck the faller.

Injury Type: Laceration, bruising

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Jan

A worker at a forestry operation was operating a chainsaw and bucking the top off a wind-felled tree when the bucked-off section of the tree swung and struck the worker. The worker received first aid treatment at the worksite and was then transported to hospital by ETV.

Injury Type: Concussion, fractured vertebra

Core Activity: Manual tree falling and bucking

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Jan

A worker was falling timber in a remote forestry operation. While attempting to overcome a falling difficulty by falling two hung-up trees, the faller was hit by a portion of another dead (stubby) tree. First aid was administered at the incident scene and the worker was then transported to a medical clinic by helicopter.

Injury Type: Close call

Core Activity: Mechanized tree falling

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

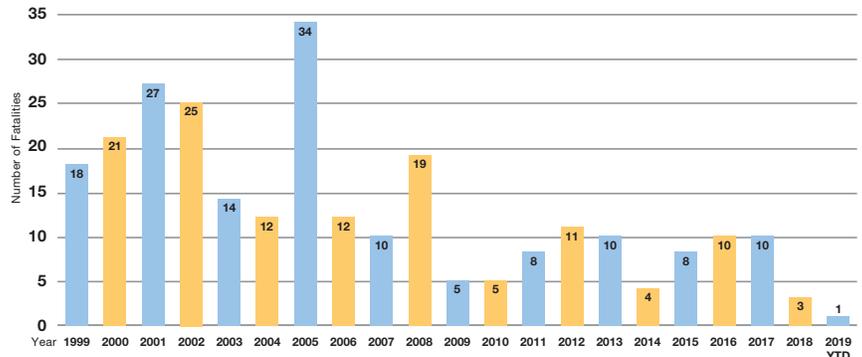
Date of Incident: 2019-Jan

A feller buncher machine was falling two trees at the same time. The larger tree fell out of the grab arms and contacted a 25 kV power line. The operator moved the machine away from the area and waited for clearance from the utility owner. No injuries occurred.

Injury Type: Contusions

Core Activity: Manual tree falling and bucking

WSBC Accepted Harvesting Work-related Death Claims



This information represents the number of work-related deaths by year in harvesting in BC, up till March 11, 2019.

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Jan

A faller was hand falling two limb-bound trees when one of the trees broke off the stump and fell 90 degrees from the intended falling path. The falling tree struck and bounced off an adjacent standing tree, creating a whiteout condition from the snow in the canopy. The redirected falling tree struck and pinned the faller. The faller was transported to hospital via emergency transportation vehicle (ETV).

Injury Type: Fractured leg

Core Activity: Cable or hi-lead logging

Location: Northern B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Dec

A worker at a grapple yarding operation was spotting (guiding) a log. The grapple yarder inadvertently picked up two logs, one of which was an unseen log buried under snow. The unseen log, which was longer than the other log, struck the worker in the leg. The worker was airlifted to hospital by helicopter.

Injury Type: Close call

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Nov

A feller-buncher was falling trees adjacent to a 25 kV power line. The top of a tree being cut broke off and contacted the power line, knocking it off three power poles.

MANUFACTURING

Injury Type: Smoke inhalation (3 workers)

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Interior B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Feb

A short, small-diameter log fell into the main chip conveyor at a sawmill. Friction at the head spool caused the log and conveyor belt to ignite. Three workers experienced minor smoke inhalation while extinguishing the fire.

Injury Type: Multiple injuries

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2019-Jan

A worker was struck by a packaged load of lumber at the outfeed of a package press. 🚫