BC **Forest Safety** Council

Vehicles & Roads

Safety Alert Type:
Vehicles and Roads

Location: Prince George Woodlands

Date of Incident: 2008-02-19
Company Name: Canfor

Details of Incident:

During the past few weeks I have received a number of complaints/concerns passed onto me from various road users. In addition, I have noticed a number of marking in the ditches where logging trucks and/or pickups have had to hit the ditch to avoid collisions. These markings in the ditch represent close calls that could have easily resulted in collisions and injuries on our logging roads.

There are approximately 30 days left in the W2008 season and I would like to communicate some key logging road safety reminders that can help us successfully complete the winter haul season.

1. All road users need to continue to follow radio call procedures.

- Loaded traffic calls all even kms (except for Lakeland 200 where users call all odd kms).
- Empty traffic calls all posted “Call Empty” signs.
- Call empty when entering a new road.

2. During the past month an increase in the amount of “Both Ways Calling” is occurring on the logging roads. In a number of circumstances, I have heard loaded logging trucks calling both ways for empty logging trucks. This radio call practice creates unnecessary radio clutter on the logging roads and can lead to accidents. Both ways calling should be reserved for the following:

- Notifying other road users of vehicles who don’t have radios.
- Notifying other road users of vehicles who are traveling dangerously or at a high rate of high speed
- Notifying other road users of road maintenance equipment working.

3. Clearing on Logging Roads – I continue to hear complaints regarding the poor clearing practices of some empty traffic on our logging roads. The main complaints I am getting is that empties are clearing in poor locations, empties are not slowing down for loaded traffic, and empty log trucks are pushing for next pullout instead of taking the first pullout available.
Below are the expectations for clearing on the major mainline type haul roads in Prince George (Lakeland 200Rd, Polar 200 RD, Pelican FSR):

- Due to the wide nature of these mainlines, it is acceptable in most circumstances to clear loaded traffic by slowing down and creeping along edge of the road. Empty traffic should follow the following simple rules for clearing loaded traffic:
    - Clear at slow rates speed (maximum 10 km/hr).
    - Clear on straight sections of road that have good lines of sight. This will allow the loaded traffic

time to adjust their speed and safely clear the empty traffic. Empties should never clear on corners, hills, or narrow section of roads.
- Avoid clearing on the fly during adverse road or weather conditions. Utilize pullouts in these circumstances.

More Information Contact Details:

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