

FATALITY ALERT

– PRELIMINARY INFORMATION –

BCFSC #2020-10-03

On October 3rd, a worker was fatally injured when their vehicle went off a resource road near Houston, BC.

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

This is the first harvesting fatality of 2020.

While this incident is still under investigation and details are still to be determined, please review the following driving safety information:

1. Slow down and drive the appropriate speed for the conditions. Reduce your speed to allow for these unexpected and changing conditions especially at night, dawn and dusk.
2. Fatigue slows reaction times and can cause poor decision-making. Ensure you are well rested and alert before taking the wheel.
3. As fall and winter approaches prepare your vehicle and yourself for poor visibility and road conditions. Replace worn windshield wipers, put on winter tires and have an emergency kit and clothing in the vehicle. Keep windshields clear and clean to avoid problems with glare.
4. During the fall, wildlife become more active and create unexpected road hazards. Actively scan the road and ditches to spot animals that might run in front of your vehicle.
5. Distractions include more than phones. Focus on driving – passengers, loud music and other distractions can take your focus away from operating the vehicle and can lead to a serious incident.
6. Public traffic on resource roads increases during the fall hunting season. Be prepared for vehicles on the road without radios.
7. Establish a check-in system for employees who are working alone or in remote locations. Regular tests of the system will make sure it works well in an emergency.