



# Work-Related Deaths & Injuries



## FATALITIES

**Injury:** Fatal

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking

**Location:** Sunshine Coast BC

**Date:** 2022-Jan

A hand faller was fatally injured when the tree he was falling broke, and a piece of the tree struck him.

[Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert](#)

**Injury:** Fatal

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2022-Jan

After receiving authorization from loader operators through radio contact verification, a worker walked into a log yard to conduct weekly log counts. The worker was subsequently found on the ground, injured. First aid and emergency services attended to the worker but the worker succumbed to their injuries.

[Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert](#)

**Injury:** Fatal

**Core Activity:** Heavy equipment, machinery, or parts sales, rental, service, or repair (greater than 500 pounds) / Wood chip mill

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Oct

A worker was called to a workplace to repair an articulating loader. The worker was fatally injured when their vehicle moved unexpectedly, pinning them against the loader.

## HARVESTING

**Injury:** Back injury, fractures

**Core Activity:** Tree planting or cone picking

**Location:** Northern BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Dec

A worker was trying to secure a large wooden beam (31 feet long, 4.5 by 10 inches, weighing about 280 pounds). The beam had been placed on posts at a height of 8 feet 4 inches. The beam was temporarily supported on the posts using a skid-steer fork attachment. The beam fell from the supporting posts and struck the worker.

**Injury:** Undetermined injuries

**Core Activity:** Helicopter logging / Integrated forest management

**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Nov

A helicopter had been performing tree-topping operations. It was landing equipment suspended from the helicopter onto a storage trailer when the helicopter fell to the ground. The pilot, who was the sole occupant, was treated by on-site first aid and then transported to hospital.

**Injury:** Multiple fractures, lacerations (1 worker)

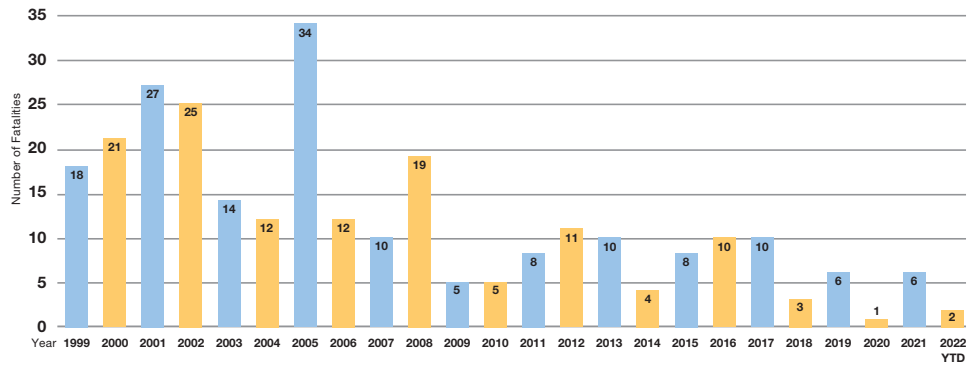
**Core Activity:** Logging road construction or maintenance

**Location:** Northern BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Nov

A worker was operating a company vehicle on a forest service road, travelling up a grade of about 10 percent, when a portion of the driveline failed. The worker got out of the vehicle and blocked the wheels. They then went under the vehicle to try to remove the broken section of driveline. The vehicle suddenly rolled backward, down the grade, dragging the worker about 75 feet. The injured worker was able to use their cellphone to call a nearby co-worker for help. The injured worker was then taken to hospital by ambulance.

## WSBC Accepted Harvesting Work-related Death Claims



This information represents the number of work-related deaths by year in BC, up until January, 2022.

**Injury:** Laceration, undetermined injuries

**Core Activity:** Integrated forest management

**Location:** Northern BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Oct

A worker was operating a grapple yarder from a main road when it was inadvertently pulled forward over the road edge and down a steep embankment. It slid about 60 feet down the grade, coming to rest on the operator's cab and boom. The worker was trapped inside the cab for about an hour before being rescued.

**Injury:** Close call

**Core Activity:** Blasting / Integrated forest management

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Sep

While inspecting a remote forestry worksite, WorkSafeBC safety officers spotted an unexploded device exposed to logging traffic (next to a newly constructed spur road). Work at the site was stopped and the ticket of the employer's blaster was seized. A different blaster was called in to assess the misfire and search for any other potential misfires.

## MANUFACTURING

**Injury:** Injury: Close call

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2022-Jan

A worker was conducting clean-up activities on a log infeed conveyor line when the line was activated. The worker was pinned between a push bar and the supporting structures of the conveyor line.

**Injury:** Crush injuries to hand

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Dec

A worker was operating a lumber stacker. As the worker reached for the end of a board (2x8, 14 feet long) to straighten it, one of their hands was caught between the end of the board and the even ender (a mechanism that evens the ends of the boards to be stacked).

**Injury:** Laceration, undetermined injury to wrist

**Core Activity:** Wooden component manufacture

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Dec

A worker on a lumber remanufacturing line was guiding wood pieces through a conveyor system. The worker's gloved hand got caught in a live roller conveyor and was pulled in.

**Injury:** Undetermined injuries

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Nov

While a worker was sweeping a sawmill floor, two metal mesh safeguards (26 by 64 inches) for a serpentine drivechain fell from their mounts. The safeguards struck and injured the worker. The safeguarding is normally secured with screws; at the time of incident, the screws were not in place.

**Injury:** Multiple fractures

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Northern BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Nov

A worker was climbing, using footholds and handholds, to access the cab of a piece of mobile equipment, when they fell about 6 feet.

**Injury:** Lower body fracture

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Northern BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Nov

A worker was on a fixed elevated work platform, cleaning a waste conveyor system, when they fell about 12.5 feet to the concrete surface below. The worker was treated on site by the first aid attendant, then transported to hospital by ambulance.

**Injury:** Facial injuries, fractured leg

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Oct

A worker wearing a full-body harness and lanyard, attached to an anchor, was travelling in a boom lift platform. The right rear tire of the boom lift entered a pothole and the worker was catapulted in the air. The worker fell, and was injured on descent.

**Injury:** Soft tissue injuries (1 worker)

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Oct

A worker was using a designated crosswalk to cross a public road at a worksite when they were struck by an approaching forklift. The forklift was travelling forward with a raised load.

## TRANSPORTATION

**Injury:** Undetermined injuries (1 worker); Soft tissue injuries (3 workers)

**Core Activity:** Log hauling / Law enforcement

**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

**Date of Incident:** 2021-Nov

As a loaded log transporter rounded a corner on a paved roadway, its rear passenger-side tires lifted off the pavement. The log transporter tipped onto the driver's side and logs spilled onto two of three oncoming police vehicles. The operator of the log transporter and three police officers were injured. 🚚