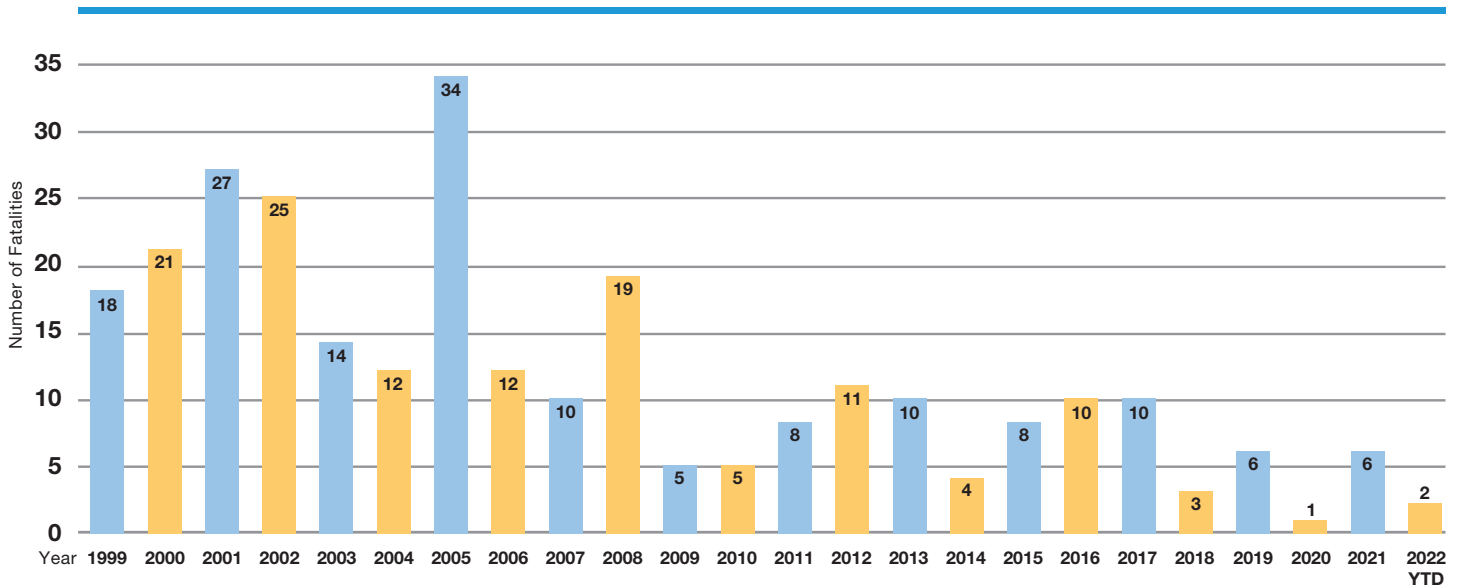




WSBC Accepted Harvesting Work-related Death Claims



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

For 2022 year-to-date, there have been two work-related deaths in the BC forestry industry. We extend our deepest condolences to the families and friends of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by these tragic incidents.

Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

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

HARVESTING

Injury: Bump on head, scrapes, bruises
Core Activity: Log hauling / Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: 2022-Jul

A log transporter with no load veered off a resource road onto the shoulder. The log transporter rolled onto its passenger side and down a steep embankment. The driver received first aid on site and was transported to hospital.

Injury: Multiple fractures, internal injuries
Core Activity: Manual tree falling and bucking / Integrated forest management
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: 2022-Jul
A hand faller was falling a red alder danger

tree. As it fell, the danger tree contacted standing trees in the falling area. A large limb from the danger tree then came back and struck the faller. The faller was treated at the scene by a Level 3 occupational first aid attendant, transported by company vehicle and crew boat to emergency health services, then taken to hospital by ambulance.

Injury: Strains and bruises
Core Activity: Integrated forest management
Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jun
A worker was operating a feller-buncher on a sloped hillside. As the boom swung, the machine went into a depression on a 25% slope and tipped onto its boom side.

Injury: Fractured rib, injury to hand
Core Activity: Ground skidding, horse logging, or log loading

Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2022-Jun
A worker was walking along a small log on level ground in the landing area when the log moved unexpectedly. The worker lost their balance and fell backward, landing on another log.

Injury: Multiple fractures (1 worker)
Core Activity: Cable or hi-lead logging
Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jun
A worker was working on a landing with a cable yarder and was moving to unhook a turn of logs when they were struck by a stump uprooted by the haulback line. The stump reportedly slid along the haulback line until it hit the scab block and fell to the ground, striking the worker. The worker was treated by the on-site first aid attendant, then transported to hospital.

Injury: Head injuries
Core Activity: Manual tree falling and bucking / Integrated forest management
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: 2022-May

A manual tree faller was trying to fall a small-diameter tree near the edge of a rock ledge. The faller lost their footing, fell from the ledge, then tumbled downslope 25 feet, striking their head on a large rock. The faller was assessed by a Level 3 occupational first aid attendant on site and transported to hospital in a company vehicle.

Injury: Suspected carbon monoxide poisoning (1 worker)
Core Activity: Tree planting or cone picking
Location: Northern BC

Date of Incident: 2022-May
A worker was found unresponsive in their tent after using a wood-burning stove as a heating source inside the tent. The worker was treated for suspected carbon monoxide poisoning by the on-site first aid attendant, then transported to hospital by company emergency vehicle.

Injury: Fractured leg
Core Activity: Manual tree falling and bucking
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: 2022-Apr

A hand faller was walking uphill from their falling quarter to the road to retrieve chain oil and gas. As they approached the road, a rock was dislodged and rolled down, striking one of the faller's legs. First aid was administered on site and the faller was transported to hospital.

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Work-Related Deaths & Injuries

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Injury: Soft tissue injuries

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Apr

A grapple yarder was yarding a hemlock log when one of the two anchor (guy) lines broke, resulting in the yarder being pulled over. The yarding crew assisted the yarder operator to get out of and off the yarder.

Injury: Laceration, bruising

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Mar

A worker was beneath a pickup truck, making repairs, when the truck began to roll down a slight grade. The worker was dragged 30 to 40 feet. When the truck stopped, the worker self-extricated, walked to the scale yard, and was provided first aid before being transported to hospital.

MANUFACTURING

Injury: Lacerated fingers (1 worker)

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2022-Jul

A worker was operating a bull edger machine when it jammed. As the worker was working with maintenance to remove the jam, one of the worker's hands was caught between the rollers on the machine.

Injury: Crush injury to lower body

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jul

A worker operating a small walk-behind skid steer tripped and fell. The worker was caught between the rear of the skid steer and a steel support post.

Injury: Burns

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Northern BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jun

As a young worker was re-energizing a 2400-volt DC local disconnect, an arc flash occurred.

Injury: Fractures of upper body (1 worker)

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2022-Jun

A cleanup worker was clearing wood debris on the green chain of a sawmill while another worker was operating a lift truck next to the green chain. The lift truck struck a cable suspended above the green chain. The cable broke and snapped back, striking the cleanup worker.

Injury: Close call

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: 2022-May

A worker was operating a front-end loader equipped with a bucket at a wood chip pile when the worker observed a fire behind the operator's seat. The worker parked and exited the loader. The fire was extinguished by the fire suppression system on the loader and by the fire department.

Injury: Fractured arm

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: 2022-May

As a millwright was lubricating a component of a gang saw, one of the worker's arms became caught between the structural frames of the functioning infeed carrier unit.

Injury: Close call

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Northern BC

Date of Incident: 2022-May

A worker was using a 1-ton overhead travelling bridge crane to perform maintenance work on a strip unscrambler chain. The hoist came off the bridge and fell into the work area, nearly striking the worker.

TRANSPORTATION

Injury: Bump on head, scrapes, bruises

Core Activity: Log hauling / Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jul

A log transporter with no load veered off a resource road onto the shoulder. The log transporter rolled onto its passenger side and down a steep embankment. The driver received first aid on site and was transported to hospital.

Injury: Fractures, injuries to lower body

Core Activity: Log hauling / Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jul

The driver of a loaded log transporter lost control of the vehicle on a private forestry road. The tractor rolled over onto the driver side, spilling the load of logs on the downslope of the road. The driver, who was pinned inside the cab, was extricated by the fire department and transported to hospital by air ambulance.

Injury: Close call

Core Activity: Log hauling / Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Jun

A highway log transporter (seven-axle truck and trailer) with a load of logs was descending a 500-metre section of logging road with a grade between 18% - 25%. The log transporter spilled the load of logs, then the trailer detached from the truck and went off the road. The log transporter eventually came to a stop. The driver was not injured.

Injury: Fatal (1 non-worker)

Core Activity: Log hauling / Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: 2022-May

A loaded log transporter was making a left-hand turn onto a highway on-ramp. As the truck neared the apex of the corner, the trailer tipped over, spilling the load of logs onto the road and a pickup truck that was parked on the shoulder of the road. A person (non-worker) from the pickup truck was fatally injured.

Injury: Fractures, lacerations

Core Activity: Log hauling / Integrated forest management

Location: Northern BC

Date of Incident: 2022-Apr

At a de-wrap station, a log truck driver was removing the wrappers from a load of logs. A log from the bundle fell, struck the ground, and bounced, hitting the worker. 🚑