



SAFETY ALERT & BULLETIN OF THE MONTH

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Emergency Drills

AOM: 2022-12-12

Reviewing emergency response procedures in a non-emergency situation is critical to ensure the plan works and everyone knows their role and expectations. Under times of stress, when every minute counts, forest workers should be confident putting the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) into action.

Testing out ERPs in a variety of settings helps workers, supervisors and first aid attendants keep their skills sharp. Drills also provide an opportunity to practice which helps lower response times and improves the effectiveness of emergency plans.

Including drills in monthly safety meetings helps to hone skills and keep knowledge current. BCFSC has developed an [Emergency Drills Resource Webpage](#) to help with ideas for drills that will help improve your emergency response.

Drill Best Practices:

- Adapt scenarios to make them as realistic as possible. Drills work best when held on the worksite, using the equipment and people who may be involved in an emergency situation.
- With a larger group, it is helpful to have some workers act as observers to watch and record the actions. Conduct a debrief afterwards to allow participants and observers to provide feedback on successes and areas that require improvement.
- Assign team members to make the necessary changes to the ERP. Follow up with everyone once changes have been implemented.
- During the drill, test out the emergency phone numbers to ensure they are still correct for the work area. Inform the operator that you are testing the system.
- You may want to involve your aerial or ground transport providers in the drill. They can provide helpful insight on their capabilities in an emergency.
- Radio communication may be challenging in some areas. A drill can help identify if alternate communication is necessary.





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BCFSC Bulletin - News and Updates

BCFSC Latest News & Resources

[New Video: Molly Lift Strap Safety Inspection](#) - Lift strap (or molly) failures present significant safety risks to log truck drivers. This video explains an inspection process and shows what to look for and when lift straps must be taken out of service/replaced.

[New Video: Loader Assist Procedure](#) - Proper load securement is vital for safe log hauling operations. Back and shoulder injuries are common risks for log haul drivers when throwing wrappers. This video explains risk assessment criteria and a process employers can use to develop an effective safe work procedure for loader assist.

[Training Course Calendar](#) – The 2023 courses have now been added.

[BCFSC FIRS App](#) - Forest Industry Reporting System is a FREE resource available to all BCFSC Members. Learn more.

[December Forest Safety News](#) – winter issue

[BCFSC Three-Year Strategic Plan](#) – 2023-2025

[Webinar Recording](#) – Tips to Successfully Transition into Supervision from November 17th.

[WorkSafeBC – New Requirements for Refusing Unsafe Work](#) – New amendments to the OHS Regulation clarify employers are now required to inform workers about a previous work refusal before reassigning the refused work.

BCFSC Training:

Upcoming Classroom Training

March 16-17 | [Forest Supervisor Due Diligence – Campbell River](#)

This two-day classroom workshop will equip supervisors with knowledge of their legal responsibilities and how to prove due diligence.

March 20-21 | [Small Employer OHS – Kamloops](#)

This two-day course is about occupational health and safety for small employers working in the forest sector.

March 20 or 21 | [Small Employer OHS Refresher – Kamloops](#)

This course provides a refresher for ISEBASE/SEBASE internal auditors.

March 24 | [Basic Incident Investigation – Kamloops](#)

This course provides a basic understanding of the methods, tools, and processes needed to conduct an incident investigation.



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March 27-31 | [Falling Supervisor – Nelson](#)

Participants will learn the roles and responsibilities of a falling supervisor and will become familiar with processes used by a falling supervisor to support their due diligence.

Refer to the [Training section of our website](#) for more information on upcoming classroom training and costs.

Online Training

Winch Assist Harvesting – This free online training course looks at safe practices to follow when operating winch assist logging equipment. It includes information on planning and layout considerations, anchors and wire rope/cable inspection and maintenance. Click here to self-enroll: [Online Learning Centre – BC Forest Safety Council](#)

Wood Products Manufacturing Supervisor Training Program – The complete set of six free online courses for the Wood Products Manufacturing Supervisor Training Program are now all available at no charge for BC forest companies. Click here to self-enroll: [Online Learning Centre – BC Forest Safety Council](#)

Worker Assessment and Training

Each forestry occupation requires different knowledge and skillsets to perform the job at hand. BCFSC worked with industry to develop competency-based standards, training and assessment tools to help employers evaluate workers and complete on-the-job training.

Check out our [FREE online training and assessment forms](#) for Basic Forest Workers, Yarding, Mechanized Harvesting and Road Building.