



SAFETY ALERT & BULLETIN OF THE MONTH

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION

Maintenance Safety

AOM: 2023-03-22

Spring break-up is typically a time for maintenance and repairs. Whether it's maintaining a bridge, log truck or fire pump, there are some essential practices that will help keep you safe.

Maintenance Safety Best Practices:

- The first step in safe maintenance is proper planning. Conduct a thorough risk assessment to help identify which controls and safety procedures are required. For example: When performing hot grinding or welding work, have a fire extinguisher close at hand to control fire risks.
- Have back-up plan in place. If one control fails, having a back-up control will help keep people safe. This is especially important when working under something or on slopes where objects can move unexpectedly. For example, if the jack or hoist fails, have blocking underneath to support the load.
- Sometimes maintenance and repairs are conducted during upset conditions or unusual situations. You may not have Safe Work Procedures (SWPs) for all of these scenarios. If this situation occurs, engage your supervisor and/or others to complete a risk assessment. One of your controls should be establishing SWPs for that condition.
- Uncontrolled energy can cause unexpected machine movement. Watch out for potential energy (like gravity or pressurized hydraulics) or kinetic energy (active parts that are still moving) that need to be de-energized and locked out to protect workers.





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- Effective supervision of maintenance work consists of taking a step back and observing the work being performed. This can provide a supervisor with a different perspective and the ability to spot new hazards they may not notice when doing the hands-on work.
- Make sure the tools used are inspected and in good condition. If you find something wrong, follow your company's procedures for taking tools and equipment out of service.
- If a new tool, process or product is introduced, ensure everyone involved is properly trained. For example, if a crane is required to lift a heavy and awkward object, workers may need to be trained on using tag lines. If a new chemical is introduced, the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) needs to be reviewed.
- Sometimes maintenance requires workers to work in cramped or awkward positions and/or perform repetitive work. This type of situation can lead to Musculo-Skeletal Injuries (MSIs) which can be just as serious as other types of injuries. Take steps to identify and control the risks to reduce the possibility of MSI's.



Resources:

- [Lock Out Resource Package](#)
- [Working Under Vehicles Safety Resources](#)
- [Video: Kinetic Energy Risk Management](#)
- [Video: Molly Lift Strap Inspection](#)
- [Webinar: Hand Tool Safety](#)
- [Maintenance of Bolster and Scale Pad Bolts](#)
- [WorkSafeBC MSI Resources](#)

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BCFSC Bulletin - News and Updates

BCFSC Latest News & Resources

[New Video: ERP Equipment Rollover and Operator Extraction](#)

This video focuses on the importance of including extractions in Emergency Response Plans. It features a logging crew conducting an emergency extraction drill. It demonstrates the process and tools used for a crew-initiated extraction as well as a self-extraction done by the operator inside an over-turned cab.

[2023 Training Calendar](#) – Our 2023 Training Calendar is now fully loaded and offers both in-classroom and online courses. We also provide requested training bringing courses directly to your preferred location at a convenient time that works for you.

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

[March Forest Safety News](#) – Spring edition available March 1st.

[Webinar Recording](#) – If You Want to Change Your Culture, You Need to Change Your Questions. This webinar is intended for forest workers/supervisors in leadership positions. It will help set you on a path to creating conversations that matter and will give you a clear outlook on how to create a culture of connection.

[2023 Interior Safety Conference \(ISC\)](#) – The ISC returns as part of the **Interior Logging Association's Conference**. Admission to ISC is free with refreshments and lunch provided. Thursday, May 4th, 2023 from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the Coast Kamloops Hotel and Conference Centre in Kamloops, BC. Visit the **BCFSC website to register**.

BCFSC Training:

Upcoming Classroom Training

April 20-21 | [Forest Supervisor Due Diligence – Kamloops](#)

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

April 21 | [Basic Incident Investigation – Prince George](#)

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



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May 4-5 | [Small Employer OHS – Prince George](#)

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

May 4 or 5 | [Small Employer OHS Refresher – Prince George](#)

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

May 4 | [Forest Supervisor Communication – Campbell River](#)

This one-day classroom workshop will help supervisors and managers improve their communication skills at work.

May 5 | [Forest Supervisor Leadership and Professionalism – Campbell River](#)

This one-day classroom workshop will help participants understand their strengths and weaknesses, and recognize how their personal style impacts the workers they supervise.

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

Online Training

Safe Decision Making in a Forestry Workplace – Workers in the forestry industry sometimes work in high pressure situations that can become dangerous. How we react to stressful situations can impact the outcome. Through awareness and practice, you can improve your ability to remain calm and focused which will help you with sound decision making. Click here to self-enroll in this free online training course: [Online Learning Centre – BC Forest Safety Council](#)

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](#)

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.