



INDUSTRY

SAFETY ALERT

Missed check-in prompts search for field technician

Location: Sugar Lake area (east of Vernon, BC)

Date: June 2023

Details: A forest technician missed their afternoon check-in while out conducting road inspections. InReach messages were sent but not received.

Head office activated the Emergency Response Plan, sending out two employees to search for the technician.

When the technician finally got a message out to head office, the search crew was already enroute. The technician reached an area with cell service and called the crew to advise them they were safe.

Learnings & Suggestions:

- Always establish two-way communication – if this is not met, proceed out of the bush to get contact with your office.
- When head office is leaving to search for their crew – send a message on the InReach system “leaving office in 15min to look for you.”
- When working in steep terrain/valleys send out a test message to see if there is any delay.

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BC Forest Safety

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