



# BCFSC Launches Six New Free Online Forest Supervisor Courses

BCFSC's library of FREE online training courses has recently expanded with the addition of six NEW Forest Supervisor courses. These new courses provide current and future harvesting and silviculture Forest Supervisors with training options to help them enhance their supervisor knowledge and build-up their support skills in team leadership and other areas of supervisor expertise to ensure there is open dialogue with a focus on safety.

The online courses can be accessed anytime by participants who have a computer, tablet or mobile device with a reliable internet connection. The new online courses include:

- [Basics of Due Diligence – Forest Supervisor](#)
- [Basics of Effective Communication – Forest Supervisor](#)
- [Basics of Leadership and Professionalism – Forest Supervisor](#)
- [Cornerstones of Effective Safety Supervision – Forest Supervisor](#)
- [Hazard Identification, Inspection and Investigation – Forest Supervisor](#)
- [Orientation, Training and Skills Development – Forest Supervisor](#)

## Who should enroll in online forest supervisor training?

This training is suitable for individuals who:

- are unable to attend in-person courses
- prefer online learning
- have completed our in-person supervisor courses and are looking to refresh their knowledge



## The value of in-person training

Although online learning is an appropriate training delivery option for some participants, in-person training remains an excellent delivery option. In-person training offers:

- instruction from experienced, hands-on instructors who can answer questions and discuss industry safety issues and provide first-hand knowledge of how to achieve positive outcomes
- valuable interaction and collaboration with industry peers through group activities
- printed reference materials to keep on hand, make notes in or photocopy for worker distribution or display
- scheduled courses available in numerous regional locations
- opportunity for groups to train together at their desired location through BCFSC's requested training delivery model

Visit BCFSC's [Course Catalogue](#) to view all our BC forestry training options. 🌲



## Worker Assessment and Training for Yarding Occupations

The yarding operation phase of forestry is inherently high-risk. Steep ground, debris, weather and heavy equipment all working in proximity to site workers and other equipment can create many potential hazards.

Tower Operators, Grapple Yarder Operators, Hook Tenders, Landing/Utility Persons, Chokerpersons and Rigging Slingers are all common occupations in yarding and require well-trained, knowledgeable and experienced operators to be able to safely work together on a worksite.

Working on a yarding crew not only requires excellent communication and coordination but it also requires teamwork and trust. Employers must ensure operators are qualified and competent to use mechanized harvesting equipment before they start work using a specific type of machine. The BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) can help employers meet these requirements. We offer free one-on-one assessment tools and training for yarding operators. These tools can be used to evaluate and confirm there are no gaps in worker knowledge or skills and make sure work is performed safely and productively. Consider using BCFSC Assessment materials for:

- Workers new to the job who would benefit from the guidance and experience they gain.
- Experienced workers and equipment operators who can demonstrate their skills and knowledge against an industry-developed standard.

BCFSC suggests a step-by-step process to using these free assessment tools for yarding occupations:

**Step 1.** Supervisor uses the specific assessment document to guide a competency conversation with the worker / operator.

**Step 2.** Supervisor conducts a practical assessment to evaluate the operator in a variety of work situations to confirm they can consistently perform the skill components of their job in a safe and effective manner.

**Step 3.** Supervisor completes the process by either signing off on the worker's competency or developing and implementing a gap training plan.

Once an assessment is completed, employers or supervisors can determine if further training is required. BCFSC offers FREE training for yarding operators through

the [BCFSC Online Learning Centre](#). This additional training can help fill identified knowledge gaps and provide participants with a Record of Completion to help confirm training has been fulfilled. For employers who already have an existing on-the job training program, BCFSC also offers free downloadable Yarding Operations [Learning Resources](#) to help develop or complement their existing program.

BCFSC has a full complement of Worker Assessments and Training for many harvesting activities outside of yarding as well. Take advantage of these resources to help you build a comprehensive worker assessment and training program for your company. Learn more by visiting [BCFSC's worker assessment and training webpage](#). 📄



# Requested Training

Are you interested in attending BCFSC training, but find the in-class sessions don't fit your schedule or location? You're not alone. This year alone, BCFSC has delivered 12 employer- requested training sessions to 136 forestry workers.

We offer several in-person courses that we can deliver at your site whenever it suits your schedule. Contact us and we can arrange for training at your location for:

[Basic Incident Investigation](#)

[Due Diligence for Forest Supervisors](#)

[Communication for Forest Supervisors](#)

[Leadership & Professionalism for Forest Supervisors](#)

[Joint Health & Safety Committee](#)

[Falling Supervisor](#)

[Other Training By Request](#)

## The benefits of Requested Training include:

- ✓ **Convenience** – minimize disruptions to your operations by hosting BCFSC in-person training at your specified time and location.
- ✓ **Cost savings** – BCFSC can provide no obligation quotes and our courses are based on cost recovery. Depending on group size and location, requested training may end up costing you less than comparable scheduled sessions, especially if travel is required.
- ✓ **Customized course content** – BCFSC's experienced instructors can work with you to incorporate your company's own safety management forms and other documentation to enhance the training delivery.
- ✓ **Inclusive Learning** – In-person training offers a learning environment that brings workers together by fostering workplace discussions and collaboration to improve your company's safety culture.

**Kevin Gayfer**, RPF, with Arrow Transportation Systems Inc. commented on his experience with four days of Forest Supervisor Training course at their Kamloops site.

*"BCFSC was able to customize the courses to be more relevant to our specific industry, which was helpful to ensure productive conversation and delivery. The course format and instructor were excellent and feedback from all the attendees was positive. We had a wide range of roles represented including truck drivers, equipment operators, tugboat operators, safety and management. We would definitely use requested training again."*

**Steven Orchiston**, Western Forest Products Inc. Stillwater Div. regarding Forest Supervisor Due Diligence training hosted on site in Powell River, BC:

*"WFP sponsored the training for our contractors to further enhance the level of supervision in our operations and to encourage the development of new supervisors. The entire group was appreciative of the opportunity to participate locally. All the feedback received was positive, and participants have expressed interest in further courses."*

To learn more about how Requested Training can benefit your operations, contact us at [training@bcforests.org](mailto:training@bcforests.org). 🌲