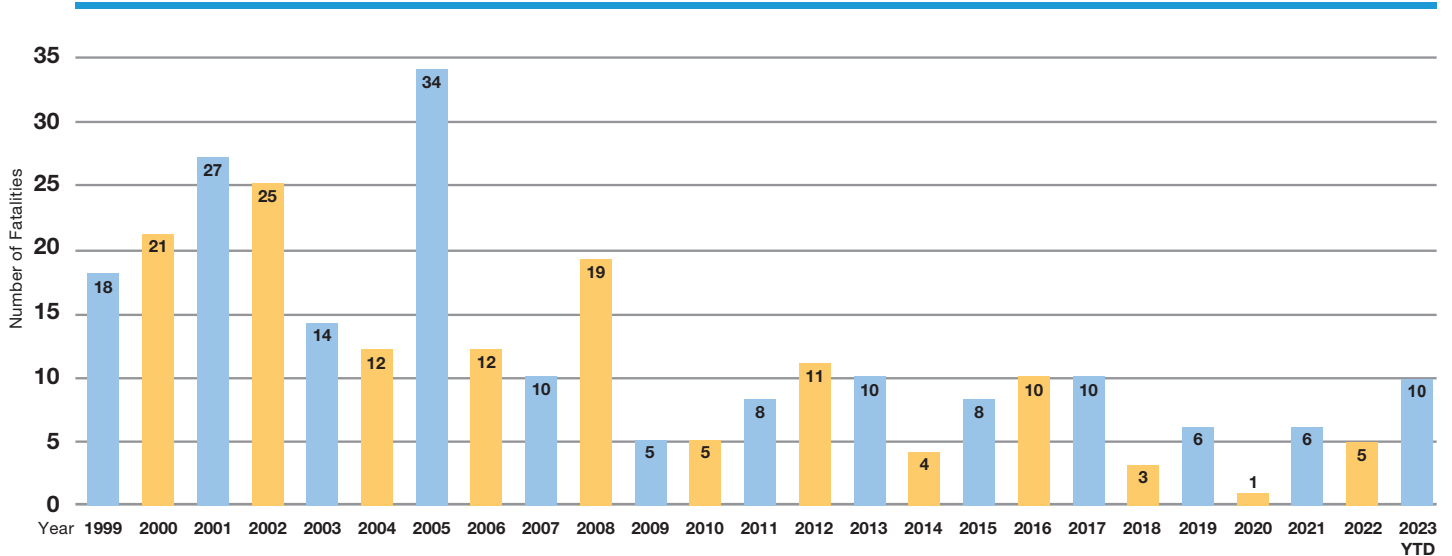




# Work-Related Deaths & Injuries



## WSBC Accepted Harvesting Work-related Death Claims



This information represents the number of work-related deaths by year in BC, up until March 2024.

For 2024 year-to-date, there have been no work-related deaths in the BC forestry industry.

### FATALITIES

(October 2023 – December 2023)

**Injury:** Fatal

**Core Activity:** Forestry/Trucking

**Location:** Vancouver Island / Coastal BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

A log transport truck operator was removing wrappers from a loaded log transport truck. A log from the top of the load fell, striking and fatally injuring the operator.

[Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert](#)

**Injury:** Fatal

**Core Activity:** Log booming or marine log salvage / Pile driving

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Oct

A worker was operating a tugboat, heading to a marina. The vessel sank and the worker was found deceased. The incident is under investigation by the Transportation Safety Board.

[Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert](#)

### 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:** Multiple injuries

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

A faller was struck by a dead poplar tree after falling a green spruce tree.

**Injury:** Fractured leg

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking / Integrated forest management

**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

A worker was falling a dangerous tree. An adjacent live tree affected the tree being felled, which struck the worker.

**Injury:** Fractures in upper body

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking

**Location:** Vancouver Island / Coastal BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

A faller felled a hemlock tree (33 inches in diameter) that had a Douglas fir snag leaning into it. As the hemlock fell, the snag struck the faller. The faller walked out to the crew vehicle and the employer transported the faller to a waiting ambulance.

**Injury:** Burns

**Core Activity:** Integrated Forest Management

**Location:** Northern BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

A worker was inside a portable bunkhouse trailer when a propane gas stove used for cooking ignited into a fireball.

**Injury:** Fractured Leg

**Core Activity:** Forestry

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Oct

A worker jumped off a platform about 2 feet higher than a paved pedestrian walkway. As the worker landed, they stumbled and fell into a forklift pathway. The worker was struck by the load being moved by a forklift.

**Injury:** Close Call

**Core Activity:** Integrated Forest Management

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Sept

A log dump crane was shock loaded while dumping a load of logs, resulting in four guy lines failing and collapse of the main mast and hoist spar.

### MANUFACTURING

**Injury:** Amputation injury to finger

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Oct

A worker was operating a 4-inch edger system when one of their hands contacted the nip point of the "live fence" chain system's partially guarded end sprocket.

**Injury:** Close call

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Oct

A fire occurred in a sump area at a sawmill. The fire department attended and put out the fire. No workers were injured but some structural damage occurred.

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**Injury:** Close call

**Core Activity:** Wood pellet manufacture

**Location:** Northern, BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Sept

A baghouse abort gate tripped during production, which forced a plant shutdown. While restarting the plant, a worker noticed a fire in a metering bin and extinguished it with a water hose. Smouldering was detected in the associated cooling bin and deluge systems were automatically activated.

## TRANSPORTATION

**Injury:** Fractures, bruising

**Core Activity:** Forestry, Trucking

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

A loaded highway log transporter with chains on was descending a snow-covered resource road when it lost traction. The vehicle went off the edge of the road, down a 45-foot bank.

**Injury:** Multiple injuries

**Core Activity:** Integrated Forest Management

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Nov

The operator of a log loader was hoe chucking (moving logs) on a 50% slope. The loader rolled about 25 metres downhill.

**Injury:** Undetermined injuries (2 workers)

**Core Activity:** Integrated forest management

**Location:** Interior BC

**Date of Incident:** 2023-Dec

Two workers were driving on a public roadway, travelling to work at a logging operation. Their vehicle encountered ice and rolled over an embankment. 🚚