

FATALITY ALERT

– PRELIMINARY INFORMATION –

BCFSC #2025-02-24

On February 24th, a forestry worker passed away as a result of injuries sustained in an earlier fall incident that occurred on Vancouver Island, BC.

WorkSafeBC's description of the incident is as follows:

During construction of a new deck, two workers were taking measurements when one of them fell about 10 feet and landed on rocks below the deck. The worker succumbed to the injuries.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased and offer our sympathies to all those affected by this tragedy.

WorkSafeBC is investigating this incident, and details are still to be determined. Contributing factors to the incident are not available during an ongoing investigation.

Consider the following safety points:

1. Slips, trips and falls are one of the most common types of incidents in forestry. Most of these incidents do not result in serious injuries but in certain circumstances (steep drop offs, cliffs, rocky terrain) fatalities can result.
2. Think about the chain reactions that might occur at your work. Ask "what if" questions to identify additional problems or hazards that could result from a chain reaction.
3. Gravity is a source of hazardous energy that is always present and often missed. Assess your worksite and determine what injuries could result if someone or something falls.
4. There are fall protection options that can match your work situation. Regulation requires:

Workers must use a fall protection system when they could fall at least 3 m (10 ft.) or where a fall from a lesser height may result in serious injury.

[WorkSafeBC's Fall Protection website is a good resource to learn more.](#)

5. Routine or simple jobs may still be high risk. Pausing and doing a risk assessment can help identify dangers and ways to stay safe. Make sure to communicate the steps and results of this assessment with your co-workers.