



Work-Related Deaths & Injuries

Since our last publication, tragically another work-related death has occurred in the BC forestry industry, bringing the total to six lives lost in 2025. We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by these tragic incidents.

FATALITIES

Injury: Fatal

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: Sept 2025

On September 16th, a skidder was being operated on a steep slope in an area north of Revelstoke when the machine became unstable and rolled repeatedly about 400 feet down the slope. The operator succumbed to their injuries.

[Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert](#)

Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

The following is the list of work-related incidents recently reported to WorkSafeBC. We share these in the hope they may help prevent similar incidents from occurring in your workplace.

HARVESTING

Injury: Multiple injuries

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

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: Sept 2025

A faller was trying to fall three limb-tied trees. The worker was completing the backcut on the final tree when a large piece of another tree fell on the worker.

Injury: Close call

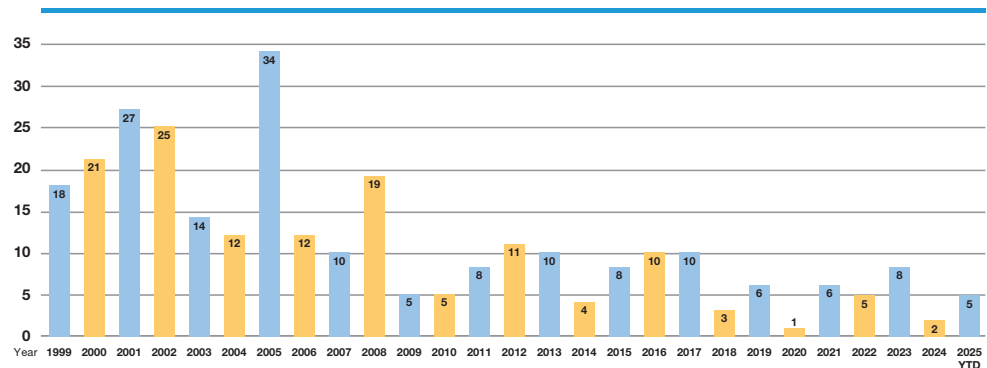
Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: Sept 2025

An unoccupied camp trailer in a row of trailers was engulfed in fire. The camp caretaker alerted nine other workers staying in the camp, and they were all able to safely evacuate to a muster point. Workers extinguished the fire and some spot fires that started in the adjacent timber. One trailer was destroyed and at least four others were significantly damaged. No injuries were reported.

WSBC Accepted Harvesting Work-related Death Claims



This information represents the number of harvesting work-related deaths by year in BC, up until November 2025.

Injury: Bruising (1 worker)

Core Activity: Logging road construction or maintenance

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: Aug 2025

A worker was positioning an articulating rock truck to unload material on a beach. The liquefied sand gave way, and the truck fell into the lake. The worker escaped the cab, and the on-site dive team used their boat to assist the worker to shore.

Injury: Multiple injuries (3 workers)

Core Activity: Industrial camp operations / Manual tree falling and bucking / Helicopter logging

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC

Date of Incident: Aug 2025

A crew boat with three workers on board ran into the shoreline.

Injury: Burns (1 worker)

Core Activity: Wooden component manufacture

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: Aug 2025

Smoke was observed coming from the top of a bunker of wood by-product. Workers used water hoses to begin suppressing the smouldering material. When the bottom of the bunker/hopper was opened for the fire department to identify and extinguish hot spots, a deflagration occurred, injuring one worker.

Injury: Injuries to foot

Core Activity: Sawmill / General trucking

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: Aug 2025

A lift truck was loading packages of wood onto the flatbed of a semi-truck when one of the lift truck's rear tires contacted a worker.

MANUFACTURING

Injury: Close call

Core Activity: Veneer or plywood manufacture

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: Sept 2025

A fire occurred in a compressor room. The fire suppression system in the room activated to extinguish the fire. The fire department arrived shortly after. No injuries were reported.

Injury: Injuries to hand

Core Activity: Planing mill

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: Sept 2025

A worker was cutting wood with a foot-operated chop saw when some wood became stuck in the saw. The worker went to remove the stuck wood and inadvertently stepped on the foot-operated control, which activated the saw.

TRANSPORTATION

Injury: Bruises, contusions

Core Activity: Log hauling / Sawmill

Location: Interior BC

Date of Incident: Oct 2025

As a loaded truck left the wrapper removal station at a sawmill, one of the truck's front tires went over an edge. The truck rolled onto its side. The trailer attached to the truck remained upright. The driver was wearing a seat belt.

FORESTRY SERVICES

Injury: Minor injuries (4 workers)

Core Activity: Wildfire fighting

Location: Lower Mainland BC

Date of Incident: Sept 2025

A three-person firefighting crew and a helicopter pilot were responding to a wildfire inaccessible by road. As the helicopter was conducting a hover exit, an upset condition occurred, resulting in the helicopter crashing. 🚒