Honouring the Legacy of David “Dazy” Weymer

BCFSC is mourning the loss of David (Dazy) Weymer. After a courageous battle with cancer, Dazy passed away on Saturday, September 26, 2026.

Dazy was well known in BC forestry with over five decades of logging experience including four of those working as a certified faller. He was a member of the BCFSC Program Committee and co-chair of Falling Technical Advisory Committee (FTAC), the FTAC rep for both the Coast Harvesting Advisory Group and the Faller Standard Advisory Committee.

He was one of those rare people who reached way beyond the work he did. Yes, he was a respected faller, trainer and safety advocate, and his contributions helped shape forestry safety. He shared his knowledge freely, challenged fallers to be better and genuinely cared about every one of us in forestry. His impact can be found throughout the industry in the countless people he trained and mentored. But what stands out most is who he was.

He was the guy you called when you needed advice. The guy who would take the time to teach someone coming up in the industry. The guy who wasn’t afraid to speak his mind, but who did so from a place of caring deeply about people and the future of forestry. He earned respect not because he demanded it, but because of the way he carried himself and how he treated others.

For many, Dazy was larger than life. He was a storyteller, a musician, a teacher, a mentor and a friend. He made people laugh, made them think and often made them better at what they did. Whether you worked alongside him in the bush, sat in one of his training courses or shared a conversation over coffee, chances are you walked away having learned something.

The loss extends far beyond the forestry community. He was fiercely loyal to his neighbours, friends and, most importantly, his beloved wife Chrystal and family. They shared Dazy with an industry for many years and we are all better for it.

BC forestry has lost one of the greats. One of its strongest voices for safety and one of the people who helped make our industry what it is today. The woods will seem a little quieter without him, but his legacy lives on in the people he taught, the lives he touched and the friendships he built along the way.



He was a highly respected faller and an expert in dangerous tree blasting. He played a crucial role in the training and development of new loggers, fallers and faller blasters. He trained over 100 faller blasters through the Danger Tree Blasting Program and was instrumental in the original development and delivery of this program.

His passion for falling and forestry safety combined with his wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise made Dazy a key contributor and subject matter expert for various organizations. His primary focus was always getting the crew home safely at the end of the day.

To truly capture who Dazy was and the impact he left on those who knew him, the BCFSC reached out to his colleagues in industry to gather tributes.

Continued on page 15...

Falling

Continued from page 14...

"My most memorable, and the friendship impact Dazy had on me, came about 15 years ago and remained till his passing and beyond.

We all have dramatic and traumatic events happen in our lives whether it is dealing with work issues, family, parent illnesses, traumatic event with a child, marriage, partnerships, relationships, financial, personal health, whatever it is, we all go through it at some point.

I believe we were designed to be able to handle these events maybe one or two at a time. But there comes a time when it seems that there are a bunch of these life things happening all at once and we simply don't see it and with me my ego made me think I could handle it.

I will be ok! Ya right!

Dazy was a great observer, and he could see right through me. He was an amazing listener and didn't say a whole lot and knew I probably couldn't hear him. He was just there!!

Then one day he walked up to me and handed me a note, it had a name and a phone number on it. He said "They are expecting your call, when you are ready. The first session has been paid for, and I don't expect it back. All I request is you pay it forward."

Dazy changed my life and in all likelihood saved it. It was the start in receiving the professional help I desperately needed!! I can't Thank him enough! So, so forever grateful!!

That is who Dazy was, and I am sure in his quiet way he helped many others. He was full of kindness, sincerity, generosity and love, and the list goes on!

I simply cannot say enough. He will be sadly missed!!"

- Bill Bolton

"I really respected Dazy's calm, objective view on things. I would reach out to him about personal or relationship matters, as well as moral dilemmas that arise in the workplace. His advice was always sound and highly appreciated."

- Jacob Vandort

"I knew Dazy from way back in the logging industry. One of Dazy's first jobs when I first knew him was, he was working on a wooden spar tree on the north coast with a fellow who we had recently completed new faller training on Sointula. Dazy always had a lot of time to talk about the old days and to share his knowledge and his interest around blasting as a progressive into new forest training into the forest industry. Dazy did have a chance to work with Western Forest Products and developing yarding crews before he passed on. His interest in explosives was his passion, and he was able to pass on a lot of experience and training to the forest industry, which will never be forgotten. He will dearly be missed by his fellow workers and friends. Another icon in the forest industry has passed on."

- Steve Telosky

"I met Dazy for the first time in 2007. On that day, I remember thinking "damn! If we could all strive to be a little more like this guy, the world would be a better place". Over the years I have felt and witnessed Dazy's amazing advocacy for faller safety. His no-BS approach always came across with a kind heart and usually finished with that infectious smile. Although Dazy leaves a void that may never be filled, he also leaves a legacy. Let's all raise our glass to an exemplary human! Dazy, you'll be forever missed."

- Shaun Phoenix

"I think the thing I respected most about Dazy was his ability to have an open mind and genuinely listen to others when they had different views or ideas than his own. He was quite obviously a highly intelligent person with a depth of experience and knowledge, but rather than using that in the way of "Therefore, my way is the right way...", he had a sense of curiosity and humility where he genuinely wanted to hear other points of view and used his experience and knowledge to suggest solutions or offer insight, rather than to persuade the other party to change their views to match his own. His genuine goal at the end of the day was to make positive change and he recognized that was not something that could be done alone and that having a diverse range of perspectives and experiences was a positive thing.

There have been a few different things over the years that we initially disagreed on, including the gendered language issue. At first his advice to me was that while in theory its a small ask and would be a positive change in the industry, he felt the industry wasn't ready for it and that I didn't have enough experience or credibility yet to demand change in that way. That I would lose respect from the group if I continued to push the issue and that it would have little impact if the group didn't respect me. While that was hard feedback to receive, he was able to deliver it in such a way that I knew it was coming from a place of genuine care and concern. Then, when I expressed to him that it was such an important issue to me that I felt I had to do something about it, he worked with me to find a way that would be better received. When I suggested it would be better received if it came from someone such as himself, he had no issue taking on that role. While that seems like a small thing, it is incredibly rare and something nobody else has done. It is one thing to be able to stand up for something you personally feel strongly about, but when it is done in support of a group you are not part of, that says something about your character.

I don't think I would have been as successful at pushing that issue without support from Dazy. His approach to working through conflicts and creating positive change through differences of opinion is something I strive to emulate and knowing and working with him has made me a better person."

- Kaitlin Scown

Continued on page 16...

Continued from page 15...

"I had the opportunity to work with Dazy on several projects, including faller supervisor training, resource material development for the BC Faller Training Standard and blasting a few trees on wildfire incidents.

His sensible approach to most situations was calming and reflected both experience and a genuine passion for faller safety, often with a healthy dose of practicality.

I remember him describing the challenges faced by those entering our profession.

What he said resonated with me as I did not grow up in the forest industry.

He described what it takes to get up in the wee, dark hours on a wet, sleety morning and get going to a new worksite, with the unknowns haunting the drive to work. That challenge alone is enough to persuade a good number of potential young workers to stay home.

As daylight comes, the plan comes together and when the cutting goes well, there is a feeling of confidence and accomplishment that can be empowering. The confidence he imparted to those he influenced, both new workers and others who were fortunate enough to spend time with him, is a lasting gift.

I'm one of the lucky ones to have been a colleague and a friend.

I'm thankful for the time I was able to spend with him."

- Neil Campbell

"I first met Dazy in 2002 during a danger tree blasting course he was instructing. At the time, he was working as a bull bucker in WFP's Port McNeill division. We connected right away, sharing the same beliefs and values.

Over the years, I had the opportunity to work alongside Dazy through several danger tree blasting courses, training Interfor contract bull buckers. We also served together on the FTAC committee for several years. Dazy was a strong supporter and driving force behind the committee, and he was highly respected for his dedication and contributions. He also worked with Interfor as a contract falling supervisor.

Beyond his work in the forestry industry, Dazy had a passion for tree climbing, kayaking, and singing. He was also a pillar in mentoring young and upcoming fallers, sharing his knowledge, experience, and wisdom to help guide the next generation.

Dazy's influence reached far and wide, and his contributions to the forestry community will not be forgotten. He made a lasting difference in the lives of many, and his absence will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him.

He will be deeply missed."

- Gary Bauer

In March 2022, Dazy wrote an article in the Forest Safety News titled Be Kind. In his message, he shared how important it is to support new forestry workers, to ensure they are doing their work with a clear head and making good decisions without distraction. He also emphasized that we should never underestimate the impact our words can have on someone else's safety and well-being. As Dazy put it:

"Be clear with them but be kind. Send them out on a positive note."

"There's no room for mind games in the forest industry."

These words continue to resonate today and serve as a reminder of the care, respect and compassion Dazy brought to our industry.

Read Dazy's full article, *Be Kind*, on the BCFSC website.

Dazy will be profoundly missed and leaves behind a large community of friends, colleagues and former students who are better and safer because of his guidance and expertise. From all of us at BCFSC, we extend our deepest condolences to Dazy's friends, colleagues and family.



Helping New Faller Trainees Succeed

As another year comes to an end, we wanted to focus our attention on new faller trainees, specifically, the opportunities to take on a trainee, the responsibilities of the faller/supervisor working with the trainee, and the trainee's responsibilities while working in industry, working towards certification.

Who Are New Faller Trainees

Trainees are **NOT** fallers, yet. They have completed basic training in bucking and falling trees by working one-on-one with a Qualified Faller Trainer for a period of not less than 30 days. At the completion of the 30 days, trainees will work in industry to gain experience by applying the skills they learned in the basic training. This experience will include different types of timber, terrain, and working with different fallers and supervisors.

Being Part of the Next Generation of Fallers

As the forestry industry changes and we see many experienced fallers move toward retirement, there has never been a more important time to help train the next generation. Becoming a faller trainer or mentor, while trainees are completing their weekly reports, is an opportunity to pass on the skills, knowledge, and professionalism that have shaped safe and productive forestry operations for years. It is more than a job. It is a chance to leave a lasting legacy.

By mentoring a trainee, you play a direct role in developing competent fallers who will carry the industry forward. Your experience can help trainees build confidence, improve safety practices, and develop the decision-making skills required for this demanding profession.

The BC Forest Safety Council is committed to supporting both trainers and trainees throughout the process. Fallers taking on trainees receive guidance and ongoing support, including Quality Assurance visits designed to help trainees succeed and ensure training objectives are being met.

Funding may be available to offset training costs. Depending on eligibility, support may be available to employers and/or trainees through programs offered by the province, making it easier to invest in the future workforce. You can find funding opportunities through Funding Programs | WorkBC.

Take pride in shaping the future of forestry by developing the next generation of skilled fallers in British Columbia. If you are interested in mentoring a trainee in their 180-day work experience, please reach out to BCFSC.

Faller Trainee Weekly Training and Progress Reports

In September 2022, Scott Rushton, BCFSC Lead Falling Safety Advisor, wrote an article titled *"Faller Training with the BCFSC – 180 Day Period"*. Scott described the steps to achieving certification after completion of the 30-day course, specifically the requirements of the Faller Trainee Weekly Training and Progress Reports and the supervisor's or faller's role. He also discussed issues and concerns the BCFSC was seeing with submitted reports including incomplete reports, reports with no comments, missing signatures, etc. That was four years ago, and we continue to see similar issues.

Within the 180-day period, both the trainee and the faller/supervisor overseeing the trainee's progression have responsibilities.

Trainee's Responsibilities:

- Ensure weekly reports are completed
- Submit reports to BCFSC within the established time frames (within 2 months of the work taking place)
- Keep physical copies of your reports in a binder or on your personal device to ensure you are meeting OHS Regulation 26.22 (6)
- Communicate changes and updates to the BCFSC regarding employment, work schedules and locations, breaks or delays in training

Continued on page 18...







Continued from page 17...

Certified Faller or Qualified Supervisor Responsibilities:

- Closely supervise the new faller trainee during the 180-day period
- As per OHS Reg 26.22 (4) (a) & (b), *the person supervising a trainee faller must evaluate the trainee's work on a weekly basis* ***and*** *keep records of all evaluations done in respect of the trainee.* Using the BCFSC Faller Trainee Weekly Training and Progress Report meets this requirement.
- Weekly reports should clearly describe how the trainee is progressing, areas for improvement, and how the faller/supervisor is working with the trainee to refine their skills and knowledge of the BC Faller Training Standard. The more comments, the better!
- Similar to the trainee's responsibility, copies of weekly reports should be readily available to a WorkSafeBC officer or the trainee.

The certified faller or qualified supervisor can also request access to the new faller trainee's training records that were completed by the Qualified Faller Trainer during the 30-day course. These training records will provide information on the training that occurred, and feedback received during the course to help identify opportunities for skills development.

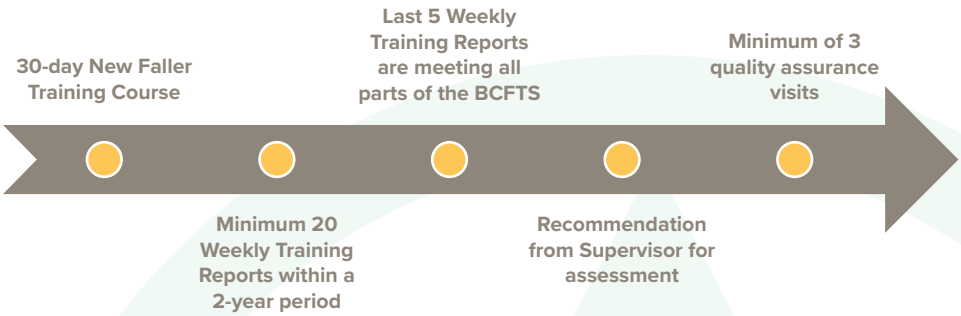
Moving Towards Certification

After completing the 30-day course, trainees will work in a forestry/production setting under the direction and close supervision of a BCFSC certified faller. During this period, a minimum of 20 Faller Trainee Weekly Training and Progress Reports must be completed and submitted to BCFSC. These reports must be submitted within two months of the date the work took place and will expire after a two-year period.

The last five (5) approved weekly progress reports must clearly indicate the trainee is meeting the BC Faller Training Standard in all parts.

After the minimum amount of weekly progress reports have been approved, the trainee's supervisor must clearly indicate that the trainee is ready to be assessed.

During this time frame, BCFSC will schedule, at minimum, three (3) quality assurance visits. This is to provide support to not only the trainee but also the faller or supervisor providing the training. After all the above is in place, a new faller trainee may apply for certification.



Winter Falling Overhead Hazards – Ice Bombs

During the winter months, heavy wet snow can build on the crown of the tree and freeze in place. Over multiple freeze–thaw–freeze cycles, these dense masses can grow to several hundred pounds. Changing temperatures or the slightest movement, such as wind or falling activities, can unload the ice bomb or it can fall with no warning.

An ice bomb may continue to grow with wind and/or snowfall until supporting branches or the stem break under the weight, a big wind event strips the crown, or the March–April thaw arrives. The hazard worsens as winter continues.

Read more about overhead hazards, the dangers of ice bombs and suggested actions for forestry workers by downloading this alert.

