

Safety Alert OF THE MONTH

July 2013

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS IN BC'S FOREST INDUSTRY

Danger Trees

Recently there has been a high frequency of faller injuries caused by small diameter snags or danger trees. Here's some advice for managing these hazards.

Recommended Preventative Actions:

- Don't overlook these small but dangerous trees. They are easy to miss, so take the time to do a thorough 360 inspection of your worksite.

- Elimination of the hazard is the most effective. Fall or remove the danger trees, with a machine if possible.

- These trees are hazardous for many forestry operations, not just falling. Silviculture or trucking operations that take place near standing timber are good examples.

- It may be effective to establish a no work zone around the danger tree. This no work zone should be well marked and communicated to all workers in the area.



- Blasting danger trees is often an effective way to remove the hazard. Check out the following video on danger tree blasting training.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=870RNYwyULI>



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The following information will help you manage danger trees in your operation.

- Training is available! Danger Tree Assessor training is offered through the University of Northern BC. Here's a link to some additional information:

<http://www.unbc.ca/continuing-studies/wildlife-danger-tree>

The BC Forest Safety Council offers a 5 day Falling Supervisor training course. This is a necessary step on your way to becoming a Certified Falling Supervisor. Click on the link for more information:

http://www.bcforestsafe.org/content-program-fallers/program-fallers-9-bullbucker_train.htm

- Know your Occupational Health and Safety Regulations :

Danger Trees – Section 26.11

Falling Supervisors – Section 26.22.1

Falling Dangerous Trees – Section 26.26

Summoning Assistance – Section 26.28

Here's a link to WorkSafeBC's site that explains these regulations:

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/publications/ohsregulation/part26.asp>



REMEMBER – Being hit by a small diameter snag has the same result as being hit by a larger tree – Serious injury or worse!

