

FOREST INDUSTRY SAFETY ALERT

BCFSC # 2013-08-19 and 2013-08-26 Fatalities

Sadly, the BC Forest Safety Council has learned of two direct harvesting fatalities.

On August 19, 2013 near Prince George, a worker was driving a grader on the Stone Creek Forest Service Road when the grader went off the road and into a lake. The worker was deceased at the scene.

The BC Coroners Service, WorkSafeBC and RCMP Traffic Services continue to investigate this death.

On August 26, 2013 a faller was fatally injured when he was struck by an object while working near Lake Cowichan on Vancouver Island. WorkSafeBC and the Coroners Service are investigating this incident.

The Council will provide more information as it is released.

Update:

Two fatalities that were earlier reported as being directly related to harvesting have been reclassified. The May 30th incident involving a water truck driver has been identified by WorkSafeBC as having a core activity of transmission line installation. The April 30th incident involving a worker falling off the tracks of a buncher has been reclassified as a result of the Coroner's Office determining that the worker died of natural causes.

These fatalities are still significant and relevant to forestry operations but will no longer be classified as direct harvesting incidents. The number of direct harvesting fatalities is now at 8.