



David Adshead, Certified Faller, QST, certified danger tree blaster, critical incident investigator

David has more than 30 years' experience in the forest industry as a hand faller, equipment operator, contractor and supervisor. He started seasonal work in 1984 with Bell Pole Company, Revelstoke Division, operating a log loader and other equipment as well as doing hand bucking and processing poles. David started his own company in 1986 to fell and buck old growth cedar before becoming Selkirk Trading's operations manager for two years and then operating as a logging contractor in the Columbia, Kootenay and Cariboo regions for two years. Prior to joining the BCFSC in 2014, David worked as an independent contractor for 17 years as a hand faller and supervisor in Revelstoke and Coastal areas.

"Being able to support fallers achieve safer workplaces is the best job in the world."

Call 778-349-5084. Email dadshead@bcforestsafe.org



Jeff Mackenzie, Certified Faller, Certified Faller Supervisor, QST, New Faller Training Instructor, re-joined the BC Forest Safety Council at the end of 2016.

Jeff previously worked in the same role as falling safety advisor from 2013-2014. A veteran faller and certified faller supervisor, Jeff has extensive industry experience both on the Coast and in the Interior. He has been a Falling Supervisor, New Faller Training Instructor, Qualified Supervisor Trainer, Logging Supervisor and Equipment Operator. He has also been a member of the Falling Technical Advisory Committee (FTAC) for the past four years.

"I am really happy to support better safety outcomes for all fallers," said Jeff.

Call toll-free at 1-877-741-1060.

Email jmackenzie@bcforestsafe.org

Fees

There are no fees for safety advocacy services performed by BCFSC FSAs, as industry already contributes to the funding of the BCFSC. Services for other industries may be provided on a "fee for service" basis, subject to the availability of the FSAs.

As there are costs associated with offering safety advocacy, participants are required to give the same consideration as though they were paying for the service. If there is a need to cancel or postpone an appointment, at least 72 hours' notice should be provided by both the participant or the FSA.

How to apply for safety advocacy

Individuals or falling operations may request an advocacy visit by completing an advocacy request form and returning it to our office for approval and administration. This form is accessible here on the BCFSC website: http://www.bcforestsafe.org/files/fm_ApplicationFallingSafetyAdvocacy.pdf

Once the application has been processed a FSA will call you to set up the visit.

More information

Falling Department:

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (PST)

Monday to Friday

Phone toll-free: 1-877-741-1060

Fax: 1-250-741-1068

Email: faller@bcforestsafe.org

Faller advocacy administration support: Bridgette McKamey:

mckamey@bcforestsafe.org

BC Forest Safety Council

420 Albert Street

Nanaimo BC V9R 2V7

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BC Forest Safety

FALLING

Safety Advocacy Program Information



BC Forest Safety



The BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) is a not-for-profit society funded and supported by industry.

The organization's **Falling Safety Advocacy Program** is designed to assist and support all aspects of hand falling safety.

The BCFSC is committed to providing members, clients and all fallers with exceptional service. This includes providing accurate information and guidance to clients to ensure they make informed decisions.

To provide this kind of service to fallers, the BCFSC employs Falling Safety Advisors (FSAs). FSAs are QSTs, danger tree faller blasters and critical incident investigators.

They are highly skilled and trained individuals who are qualified, certified and experienced to provide free advocacy services that support fallers, falling supervisors and companies that employ fallers.

The Falling Safety Advocacy Program includes the following services:

Certifying Falling Supervisors

FSA's can help prepare falling supervisors for certification by providing a cost-free preparation day. Certification assessments consist of field observations, demonstrations, interviews and a review of documentation. The purpose of certification is to ensure supervisors are managing to industry standard.

Faller visits

FSA's can visit fallers at their operation upon request. FSA's can present safety topics at crew meetings, inspiring discussions with fallers for important feedback. Evaluations and tours can also be arranged.

Upgrade training for fallers

FSA's can provide training to any faller needing extra assistance in upgrading their falling skills. Requests may be made by a faller, the employer, or may be part of a WorkSafeBC order. This training is typically 1-5 days long, with the faller being mentored and assessed by a FSA. At the end of the training, the BCFSC will provide a report to the person that made the request for the training. A copy will also be given to the faller. Trainees are responsible for their own WorkSafeBC insurance coverage during this training. Depending on the scope of training needed, this service is at the discretion of the falling manager.

Confidential company reviews

As the health and safety association supporting the forest industry, the BCFSC's FSA's can perform confidential reviews of a company's faller safety systems to support their effectiveness and success. FSA's will visit an active production site and perform a review based on industry best practice, and share recommendations based on the findings. All information belongs to the company and is held confidential between the FSA and the company.

No records are retained by the BCFSC. Actual trips are recorded for financial reporting purposes only by the BCFSC. General information may be used to identify industry trends.

Critical incident investigation support

In the unfortunate event of a serious incident, FSA's are available to support the impacted organization with incident investigations. FSA's who are trained critical incident investigators can attend the operation and assist the company with their investigation, with the BCFSC acting in an advisory capacity to the company. All reports and photos are the property of the company and no records will be maintained by the BCFSC.

Dangerous tree faller blasting support

Dangerous tree faller blasting has become an essential part of harvesting trees in order to mitigate risks to hand fallers. Fallers are often confronted with dangerous trees such as jackpots, hang-ups, or windthrow stacks.

Dangerous tree blasting assists fallers to work safely and effectively with explosives to remove trees that are dangerous to fall by conventional methods. According to the Workers Compensation Act Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 26.26(3): ***"If conventional methods cannot be safely employed to remove a dangerous tree, blasting or other acceptable methods must be used."***

FSA's are certified dangerous tree faller blasters and can perform demonstrations or support certified blasters in the field. (The BCFSC also provides access to dangerous tree blasting training, run by Dave "Dazy" Weymer.)

For additional resources on danger tree blasting, please see:

- Dangerous Tree Faller Blasting, BCFSC: https://youtu.be/5w_gQP-xDeY
- Dangerous Tree Faller Blasting, Below Road Right of Way: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3rwc7vFPg4>
- BCFSC dangerous tree blasting training information: <http://www.bcforestsafe.org/node/1580>
- WorkSafeBC OHS Regulation Part 21 Blasting Operations: <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-21-blasting-operations>

Contract supervisor awareness training

FSA's can provide some initial training to contract managers that hire falling contractors to help them understand what is required for engaging hand fallers.

Meet the falling safety advisors

Scott Rushton, Certified Faller, QST, Certified Falling Supervisor



Scott started out in forestry over 30 years ago as a chokerman, landing man in 1985 with Dougan Logging before moving onto MacMillan Bloedel / Weyerhaeuser where he was chokerman,

landing man, hooktender boom man, hoe operator and faller from 1988 to 2004. From 2004 to 2015 he was a faller/falling supervisor starting with Vernon Ridge Holdings (2004-2006), then Antler Creek Logging (2006-2012) and Black Summit Falling (2012-2015). Scott joined the BCFSC in 2015.

"Safety is everyone's responsibility. Never accept unsafe work and never look the other way. We are in this together."

Call 250-735-2850. Email srushton@bcforestsafe.org