

Advisory for Grapple Yarder Crews:

Change in voice command

WorkSafeBC has introduced a change to Occupational Health and Safety Regulation that impacts crews working with grapple yarder systems (*effective June 3, 2019*).

In Table 26-8 *Voice Commands for Grapple Yarders*, when instructing an operator to grapple the log and go ahead (Item #1), the voice command changes from “CLOSE AND GO” to “**TAKE IT**”. The original voice command was found to be too similar to other commands.

Table 26-8 should be amended to refer to “TAKE IT” as the voice command in Item #1 (see below).

Table 26-8: Voice commands for grapple yarders

Item	To instruct operator to:	Signaller says:
1	Grapple log and go ahead	CLOSE AND GO TAKE IT
2	Close grapple but not go ahead	CLOSE
3	Stop rigging	STOP
4	Open grapple	OPEN
5	Move empty grapple ahead	AHEAD
6	Move empty grapple back	BACK
7	Go ahead on strawline	AHEAD ON THE STRAWLINE
8	Slack mainline	MAINLINE
9	Slack haulback	HAULBACK
10	Lower grapple	DOWN
11	Slack strawline	SLACK STRAWLINE
12	Swing to operator's left	SWING LEFT
13	Swing to operator's right	SWING RIGHT
14	Hold haulback and go ahead on mainline	TIGHTLINE

This table is located in Part 26 of the OHS Regulation (Forestry Operations and Similar Activities). WorkSafeBC web link: <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-26-forestry-operations#SectionNumber:26.99>

It can also be found in the BC Forest Safety Council's *Selected Excerpts from Workers Compensation Act, Occupational Health and Safety Regulation and Motor Vehicle Act Regulations* (Version: December 5, 2018)