



INDUSTRY

SAFETY ALERT

ATVs and Water Bar Hazards

Location: Inactive Resource Roads throughout British Columbia

Date: August 2020

Description of Event: All-Terrain Vehicle operators should always be prepared to encounter water bars when riding on forestry roads, as deactivation measures can occur unexpectedly.

In a recent instance, an operator had travelled approximately eight kilometres of forestry roads without any deactivation and had become complacent while increasing his speed of travel.

At the bottom of a hill the ATV struck a water bar that was not visible until the operator was upon it. The impact caused the machine to jump and, although the operator managed to keep the ATV upright, he seriously jarred his back and wrist. Had the ATV overturned the outcome could have been significantly more severe.



Learnings and Suggested Actions:

- Do not become complacent when riding an ATV/UTV and always expect the unexpected, especially when riding on an unfamiliar road
- Ride the ATV/UTV at a safe speed for the road – if unfamiliar with the road keep your speed to a minimum
- Use proper PPE when riding and ATV/UTV
- Employ the principles of [RADAR](#) when riding.

Additional Information: Bryan Darroch, Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. (250) 768-6247

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BC Forest Safety

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