

SAFETY ALERT

Hazard / Near Miss

June 2017

Potential Hazards

- Falling timber and/or logging debris landing adjacent or directly on the road surface.
- Passing vehicles driving too close to heavy machinery operating nearby.
- Inadequate communication when vehicles can't alert machine operators that they are approaching and require access.
- Surprised or distracted drivers due to unexpected machinery or debris, which could result in a more serious incident.



Preventative Actions

- As per WSBC Regulation sec 26.14.3 *effective traffic control must be in place whenever vehicles on a road in a forestry operation are required to drive through a hazard area or through a safe work area.*
 - “Effective traffic control” will require either signage, radio communication, flag person, or even physical barriers if necessary.
- All heavy equipment must be monitoring the road channel at all times when working alongside active roads, which includes RR channels when working beside mainline roads.
- Consider adjusting falling pattern to fall areas along roadsides in sequence during low traffic times and when supervisor, or designate, is available to direct traffic.

Incident Summary

- There have been multiple incidents recently reported involving equipment working along mainline roads with inadequate signage and/or radio communication.
- Drivers unable to contact the feller buncher operator because they are only monitoring the contractor's private radio channel.
- Drivers on mainline roads not aware that falling activities are taking place.



SAFETY COMES FIRST

...and it starts with the person you see in the mirror.

