



## In 2019, there were five direct work-related deaths in the BC forestry industry

### November 14, 2019

A 19 year-old worker was fatally injured when he was crushed by a piece of heavy equipment while working on a logging block near Creston, BC. See alert [www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3414](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3414)

### July 15, 2019

A worker was driving to work in the employer's vehicle. The vehicle left the highway and the worker was fatally injured. See alert [www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3375](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3375)

### April 28, 2019

A faller was conducting forest road right-of-way falling when he was struck by a tree felled by an adjacent faller. See alert [www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3334](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3334)

### April 18, 2019

A faller was struck by a tree that fell unexpectedly due to its root system being compromised by active hand falling activities. The faller succumbed to his injuries. See alert [www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3320](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3320)

### February 11, 2019

A worker at a forestry operation was underneath a pickup truck conducting maintenance activities. The worker was discovered pinned underneath the front driver's side tire. See alert [www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3280](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/node/3280)

The BC Forest Safety Council extends our condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by these incidents.

## Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

The following sample of work-related incidents recently reported to WorkSafeBC may help prevent similar incidents in your workplace.

### HARVESTING

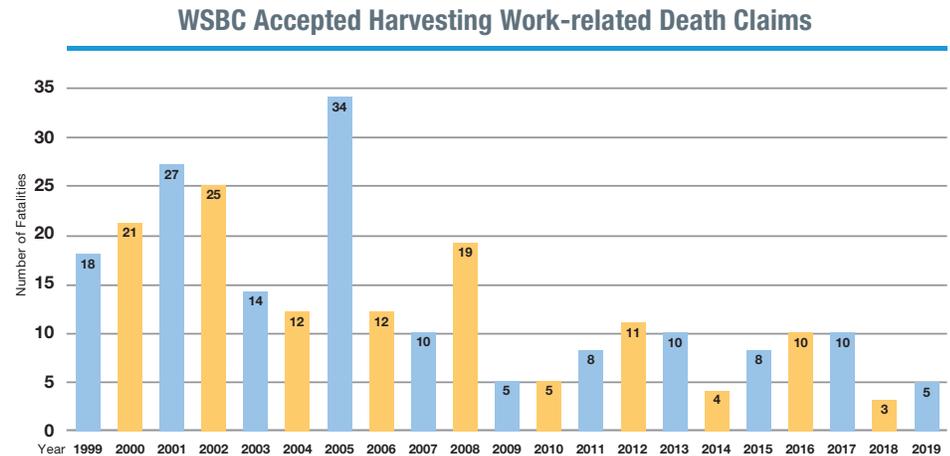
**Injury:** Lacerated leg (1 worker)

**Core Activity:** Log hauling / Integrated forest management

**Location:** Lower Mainland, B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Nov

A loaded log transporter and a service truck met at slow speed in a tight corner on a forest service



This information represents the number of work-related deaths by year in BC, up until December, 2019

road. The service truck moved to the uphill side of the road and the log transporter attempted to manoeuvre at slow speed past the service truck on the downhill side of the road. The shoulder on the downhill side of the road failed and the log transporter trailer rolled over the bank, pulling the tractor with it. The load of logs spilled, and the tractor and trailer rolled several times before coming to rest against several large fir trees about 50 feet down the bank. The operator was able to self-extricate and walk up the bank to the road. The operator was transported in the service truck to a location where they were met by an ambulance, which transported the operator to hospital.

**Injury:** Multiple fractures

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking

**Location:** Northern B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Nov

A worker was conducting manual tree falling activities. While walking the escape route, the worker fell and was injured. The worker was transported by air to meet an ambulance, which then transported the worker to hospital.

**Injury:** Multiple fractures

**Core Activity:** Cable or hi-lead logging

**Location:** Interior B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Nov

After setting chokers, a worker was struck by a log that was knocked loose by the yarder carriage. The worker received first aid on site and was transported to hospital by helicopter.

**Injury:** Fractured leg

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking / Integrated forest management

**Location:** Interior B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Oct

A certified faller attempted to fall two limb-tied trees. One of the trees did not fall in the intended direction and struck one of the faller's legs.

**Injury:** Concussion, injuries to lower body

**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking

**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Oct

A faller was falling and bucking in a cedar salvage forestry operation. The faller was falling a sapling to overcome a falling difficulty, when he was struck by another tree. The faller was transported to hospital by helicopter.

**Injury:** Close call

**Core Activity:** Logging road construction or maintenance / Integrated forest management

**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Sep

An excavator was being used to prepare a section of new logging road for blasting. A landslide (about 15 metres wide by 30 metres long) started and carried the excavator downslope about 30 metres. The excavator came to rest on its side next to a lake. Two fallers assisted the operator, who was not injured, to exit the cab.

### MANUFACTURING

**Injury:** Close call

**Core Activity:** Pressed wood product manufacture

**Location:** Northern B.C.

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Nov

A fire and explosion occurred in a wood pellet cooler vessel at a wood pellet fuel manufacturing plant. The fire was quickly managed by the employer's staff but there was substantial damage to the cooler vessel, building structure, and surrounding equipment. There were no injuries.

**Injury:** Close call

**Core Activity:** Sawmill

**Location:** Lower Mainland

**Date of Incident:** 2019-Oct

A small fire broke out in the basement of a sawmill, below the log infeed deck. Crews quickly controlled the fire. The local fire department extinguished remaining hot spots. The incident was captured on video and the cause is under investigation. 🚒