

# SAFETY / HAZARD ALERT

## Forestry Operations

### Workers High Visibility PPE Caught Fire While Pile Burning

**Location:** Blue River

**Date:** October 2020

**Details of Close Call:**

A worker was conducting pile burning activities in the Blue River area using a combination of drip torches and tiger torches. When using a drip torch the worker got too close to exposed flame and the high visibility shirt they were wearing caught on fire. Worker was able to put out the flames with no effects to their person or other articles of clothing.

Example of the type of high visibility clothing the worker was wearing.



**Learnings & Suggestions:**

- Most of the high visibility clothing/ winter gear used in day to day forestry are made from polyester and other flammable materials.
- Incorporate appropriate PPE requirements specific to burning activities into company safety plans and safe work procedures.
- Ensure all workers around fire are aware of hazards and equipped with flame resistant/ non-flammable clothing.

**Additional Information:** Aidan Coyles, Gilbert Smith Forest Products Ltd. (250)-672-9435