Log truck driver distracted by animal, veers off road

Location: Holding Road (near Chase, BC)

Date of Incident: March 4, 2013

Details of Incident: A log truck driver was heading home empty south of the Adams Lake Sawmill (travelling at approximately 55-60 km/h) when a dog ran out onto the road after his truck.

The driver looked into his rear view mirror to see if the dog was okay. While he was looking into the mirror, the truck veered slightly to the right and caught the soft shoulder. Due to the softness of the shoulder material, the truck was immediately pulled into the ditch and slammed into a rock bluff alongside of the road.

There was significant damage to the truck and the driver suffered a minor scrape to his right hand and a mark on his forehead.

Recommended Corrective Actions:

- Do not linger your attention on your rearview mirror for longer than necessary
- Always remember to stay focused on the road in front of you
- Remember that in the spring the road shoulders are very soft and can pull your vehicle

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