



SAFETY ALERT & BULLETIN OF THE MONTH

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Wildlife Collision Prevention

AOM: 2022-04-22



Wildlife collisions are one of many risks and hazards BC drivers are exposed to throughout the year and these collisions can cause serious injuries and fatalities for both people and animals. These incidents also result in millions of dollars in vehicle damage for vehicle owners and insurers.

According to the Wildlife Collision Prevention Program (WCPP), wildlife is one of the top 10 contributing factors to crashes in BC. There are approximately 11,000 animal-related crashes reported to ICBC yearly, resulting in an average of 870 injuries and four human fatalities. A large majority of these incidents are caused by drivers swerving to avoid animals and instead lose control of the vehicle or crash into another vehicle or roadside hazard.

Animals are at risk of unnecessary suffering and death. BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure statistics show that over 5,700 animal carcasses are removed from BC highways annually. This figure is estimated to be under-reported by 65-75%, putting the true number of wildlife killed on BC roads around 16,400-23,000 each year.

Where human travel corridors and animal travel routes coincide, there is a high potential for a wildlife-vehicle collision. Due to the quick and unpredictable behaviour of animals, the potential for collision can happen anywhere, at any time however collisions involving deer, moose, elk, bear and caribou typically peak in May, June, November, and December.





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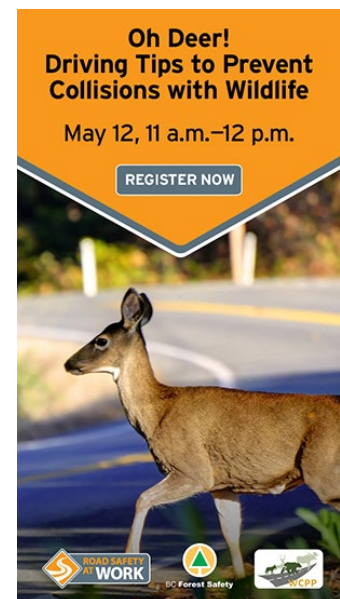
Wildlife-vehicle collisions may not be entirely avoidable, but you can reduce the risk. There are strategies for preventing these incidents when drivers are better prepared to avoid or respond to a potential collision with wildlife:

- Watch for the road signs – these road signs are installed where there are high wildlife use areas.
- Reduce speed – reducing speed gives drivers the ability to steer away from objects on the roadway, reduces stopping distance, and decreases the force of an impact.
- Drive defensively – drivers and passengers should actively watch for wildlife on the road, movement, shining eyes, or flickering lights or unexpected movement from cars ahead of you.
- Use your vehicle – keep your vehicle maintained (windshield clean and crack free, and lights in good working order), wear your seatbelt, and use your high beams when safe to do so.

The BCFSC has partnered with WCPP and Road Safety at Work to present *Oh Deer! Driving Tips to Prevent Collisions*. This free webinar will cover:

- Why animals are attracted to the road
- The frequency and consequences of wildlife collisions
- When and where wildlife collision commonly occurs
- Practical measures that drivers and employers can take to anticipate and avoid collisions with wildlife
- Find out why deer really do freeze in the headlights and why deer whistles don't work!

If you drive to work, drive for work, or have employees who drive for work, register for this invaluable webinar to learn practical tips you can apply to help prevent collisions with wildlife.



Free Webinar: [Oh Deer! Driving Tips to Prevent Collisions with Wildlife](#)

Date: Thursday, May 12

Time: 11am – Noon (PST)

Wildlife Collision Prevention Resources:

[Wildlife Collision Prevention Program \(WCPP\)](#)

[Safety Tips for Reducing the Chances of a Wildlife Collision](#)

[Preventing Collisions with Wildlife – Road Safety at Work](#)

[Avoiding Collisions with Wildlife – Safety Driven](#)

[BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Wildlife Program](#)

[Wildlife Accident Reporting System – BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure](#)



BC Forest Safety

Main Office: 420 Albert Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 2V7
Central BC: 2666 Queensway, Prince George, BC, V2L 1N2
Toll Free: 1.877.741.1060 | bcforestsafes.org



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BCFSC Bulletin - News and Updates

BCFSC Latest News & Resources:

[Professional Industry Driver Training Program Video](#)

This video showcases the Professional Industry Driver Program.

[Communicable Disease Update](#)

As of April 8, employers can shift back to communicable disease prevention plans to manage the risks of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases in the workplace.

[Subscribe](#) to Forest Safety News, Safety Alerts, Crew Talks and more.

BCFSC Training:

Upcoming Classroom Training

April 28-29 | [Small Employer OHS \(+ Refresher\) - Langley](#)

This two-day course is about occupational health and safety for small employers working in the forest sector.

May 16 – 17 | [Small Employer OHS \(+ Refresher\) - Vernon](#)

This course is about occupational health and safety for small employers working in the forest sector. Participants should be active in their company's business operations and have knowledge of their safety program, as they will become the company's internal auditor and submit their company's audit.

May 26 – 27 | [Forest Supervisor Due Diligence – Vernon](#)

This two-day classroom workshop will equip supervisors with knowledge of their legal responsibilities and how to prove due diligence.

May 27 | [Basic Incident Investigation – Prince George](#)

This course provides a basic understanding of the methods, tools, and processes needed to conduct an incident investigation.

Requested Training | If your company needs training – schedule a time and location that works for you. We offer courses like Forest Supervisor, Incident Investigation, Joint Health & Safety Committee and Prime Contractor training we can deliver directly to you and your crew. Contact the training department to find out more. **Email:** training@bcforestsafe.org

Refer to the [Training section of our website](#) for more information on upcoming classroom training and costs.



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Online Training

New Online Training for Wood Products Manufacturing Supervisors – These free, online training programs were developed by BCFSC and the Manufacturing Advisory Group (MAG) to help train supervisors in the sawmill and wood pellet manufacturing sectors. There are currently two courses available.

- Leadership and Professionalism
- Effective Communication

Self-enroll for these free courses: [Online Learning Centre – BC Forest Safety Council](#)

Worker Assessment and Training

Each forestry occupation requires different knowledge and skillsets to perform the job at hand. BCFSC worked with industry to develop competency-based standards, training and assessment tools to help employers evaluate workers and complete on-the-job training.

Check out our [FREE online training and assessment forms](#) for Basic Forest Workers, Yarding, Mechanized Harvesting and Road Building.



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