

FATALITY ALERT

– PRELIMINARY INFORMATION –

BCFSC #2025-04-15

On April 15th, a manual tree faller was fatally injured while working at a site south of Kitimat, BC. WorkSafeBC and the Coroners Service are currently investigating this incident.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased and offer our sympathies to all those affected by this tragedy.

This incident is under investigation and details are still to be determined. Contributing factors to the incident are not available during an ongoing investigation.

Consider the following safety points:

1. Be vigilant and complete a thorough hazard assessment for each tree that is going to be felled. Anticipate what may go wrong and what controls can be put in place to protect yourself.
2. Fifty percent of fallers' serious injuries are caused when they are struck by overhead hazards. Managing overhead hazards requires careful ongoing assessments and planning.
3. Ninety percent of falling incidents happen within 10 feet of the stump. When the tree starts to fall, move away on your escape trail and get out of the hazard zone. Always have a good escape route, with cover where possible. If clearing a minimum of 10 feet to a safe location is not possible, alternate falling methods must be used.
4. Refer to the Designated High-Risk Violations: Hand Falling or Bucking and the BC Faller Training Standard Info Flips for information on safe work procedures and the acceptable Standard for bucking and falling.