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DUNKEL LOGGING'S CREW HELPS MAKE CLIMBER RESCUE VIDEO!!!!



Shawn and Luke made the climbing and rescue rigging look easy, obviously the right men for the job. (Some of the rest of us probably would have exceeded the load rating of the tree and turned it into a real CLIMBER RESCUE!)

Recently the crew from Dunkel Logging out of Sandpoint came to the Associated Logging Contractors property near Coeur D'Alene to help film a climber rescue video. When contacted to see if we could borrow his climber, crew boss **Mose Dunkel** quickly volunteered to bring his whole crew. Mose said, *"This training is important and we need to know how to do it right. If it helps other loggers as well, that's even better!"*.

The ALC paid for a professional film crew to capture the event and even used a drone camera to get close ups of the guys when they were up in the tree. Idaho Logging Safety's **Shawn Ogden** had all the gear and the different rescue scenarios laid out so the filming went smoothly.

Shawn, along with Dunkel climber, **Luke Plaster** went up and down the tree about ten times to show different rescue scenarios and all the gear that might be used. The rest of the Dunkel crew helped out by manning the rope that was used to lower the injured climber.

OSHA requires that if you climb trees as part of your logging operation, you must have two people capable of climbing on the job and two sets of climbing gear. There also has to be a written rescue plan onsite in case the first climber up the tree has trouble and can't get himself back down.

You are also required to train your crew on the written plan so they know how to use the gear to rescue an injured climber. The video that we filmed with Dunkel's help will make that process much easier. Sometimes it really helps to be able to *see* the process, not just read about it.

Shawn has also put together a list of all the gear that would be needed for a climber rescue kit. It would all fit into a small bag so it can be kept together and clean, ready to be used if needed.

Climber Rescue continued on next page

(In this issue: Radios, Ear Plugs, Fire Extinguishers, Emergency Plans and CREEPY BUGS!!!)

LOGGERS MAKE THAT EXTRA EFFORT (AND INVESTMENT) TOWARD SAFETY



Pictured on the left is *Mark Mullikin* and *Mark Deyo (Mark Deyo Logging)*.

Mark M. had just finished doing a *radio check* with State Communication, who returned his call and it came through **LOUD AND CLEAR!**

Mark D. had recently “updated” his radios and was making sure they did the job. Mr. Deyo has about 5 different work sites going, so he thought communication was “sorta” important, *ESPECIALLY* if there was an accident.

Even though they are spendy, Mark D. wanted me to pass along to other loggers thinking about making that investment to make sure you get the radios with “power” enough to get out from isolated areas, which goes for pretty much every logging job in the state. Most radio outfits will give you a loaner to take out and try just to make sure it will work where you need it.

***GOOD JOB MARK & MARK & MARK DEYO LOGGING FOR MAKING A POSITIVE
“MARK” IN THE SAFETY WORLD! (I couldn’t help myself!! Galen)***



Climber Rescue continued...

I have had a few guys ask what the odds were of a climber getting hurt and needing to be rescued. While the odds might be low, the risk of not being prepared is huge. There was an incident this summer in Idaho, where a climber (not on a logging job) was injured. He was topping a tree that was near a cabin. As the top fell it struck the climber breaking an arm and a leg. He spent several painful hours hanging in the tree until he could be rescued. If this guy had been lucky enough to be working close to the Dunkel crew they would have had him back on the ground in no time!

Dunkel’s Crew: Brad Schaper, Jacob Cullen, Mose Dunkel just woke up Luke Plaster who was napping on the backboard!

The video footage is being processed at this time and we will let you know when it is available.



NICK holds up one of his “form fitting” ear plugs. It is the same color as his shirt and his beard so I hope you can see it alright.

As with anything, there are a bunch of different brands out there to be searched, but Nick says if you run a saw or work around damaging noise, they are worth every penny!

ANOTHER LOGGER MAKING THAT “EXTRA EFFORT”

Continuing on with that trend of loggers making that “extra effort” on the safety side of things, I will introduce you to *Nick Altmiller*, owner of *Cold Springs Cutting*.

After years of fighting with the rubber ear plugs (between trying to keep them in your ear and knowing half the time they are loose enough they are not doing the job) Nick started looking into the “form” fitted ones. One day he jumped in his pickup and headed down to a hearing aid business, they took an imprint of his ears, and a few days later, he was wearing them out in the woods.

Nick says they are more comfortable and stay in his ears. They are built to keep out the damaging noise, but allow him to hear his radio when the crew checks in.

They are a bit spendy. Nick figured out he could pay for the rubber ear plugs for about 5 years for the price of these, but after wearing them for one day, he said if he lost one tomorrow he would head down to town and order new ones.

Nick is very professional when it comes to safety and safety equipment. *“I want to get home every night and be in good physical shape (including hearing) for a LONG TIME!”*

A goal we should all be looking for.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER--YOU WANT IT TO WORK WHEN YOU NEED IT!

Thirty days goes pretty fast during the logging season and it may seem repetitive to have to check your fire extinguisher every month, but a recent near disaster points out the need to keep doing it.

An almost new shovel logging machine caught on fire this summer. A quick call for help got the whole crew to arrive with every extinguisher they had. A broken oil line was fueling the fire, so it was pretty intense as they attacked it. They ended up using *eight* extinguishers before they got the fire under control and only had a couple left. Imagine if any one of those had failed to discharge properly. They might have been left to helplessly watch a new machine totally burn up and possibly their logs and surrounding timber as well.

This crew had been keeping up on the inspections and everything worked as it was supposed to. The result was the machine was damaged but not destroyed and the fire never spread beyond the area on the machine where it started. ***GOOD JOB GUYS!!!***



FIRE!!! FIRE!!! FIRE!!!!

By Shawn Ogden

One of the last subjects that we talk about in the spring safety class is what to do in case you have a fire on the job. You might remember us emphasizing that you should immediately ***“Call The Professionals”*** in the event you have a wildfire and get to work putting it out, if it is safe to do so. I was reminded not too long ago how important that statement is.

I was visiting a logging job near the Idaho/Montana divide east of Tendoy, and as I was leaving the job, I noticed smoke rising from the thick lodgepole timber about 10 miles to the south. There was only a small column of white smoke rising from the trees, so I assumed it had just gotten started. I went back to warn the logger since the fire was not visible from where he was working. In the few minutes time it took me to go warn him and return to where the fire was visible, it had more than doubled in size



and was approximately 5 acres. In the short amount of time we stood gazing at the fire it probably doubled in size again. I could see trees torching and an occasional crown fire would make a run up through the trees, producing thick black smoke. I also noticed a plane circling, which most likely meant the fire had been reported, right? Rember, ***call it in anyway!***

From the first time I noticed the fire until the time I was leaving the job was about 30 minutes. In that short time span, the fire had gone from what appeared to be a “manageable” size to something that was no longer able to be brought under control very easily. Even if the fire would have been on a logging job, at that point I doubt that even with dozers and bunchers cutting a line you would have been able to stop it. If it were in more scattered fuels it would be a different story, but this was very dense lodgepole with years of dead timber scattered throughout the understory.

I stopped at one more job on my way down off the mountain that day and even though I could not see the fire itself, the smoke column was growing exponentially. Two and half hours had passed by the time I started to pull back onto the highway at Tendoy and this once small fire that only produced a small wisp of white smoke was now producing its own pyro cumulus cloud that reached high into the atmosphere.

I know it is getting towards the end of summer and fire season will be over soon, but the risk is still there. Right from the start, you guys have a couple of good time saving measures already in place. Your red books will have your location, both latitude and longitude and directions by road system. Check with your local fire warden to find out what number he recommends you call in this case. Make sure you write it down somewhere everyone can find it and make sure everyone knows where it is located. If you do not have a specific phone number for reporting wildfires, call 911.



THE KEY TO YOUR LOGGING EMERGENCY PLAN IS THE “RED BOOK”!

By Terry Sttreeter

The first thing I ask for when I get on a job is where is the *Red Book*. You hear us talk about it at our meetings and how important it is to be filled out accurately. Just to remind you, it is far different from a SAP (Site Activity Plan) being shown to me lately by crews when I ask if they have their Emergency Plan filled out.

A Site Activity Plan has a lot of information in it about the job and some do have the State Communication number at the top, including procedures for the job such as foresters phone numbers, spill response, fire center and equipment info, gas & utilities, and stewardship information. Some contractors will pull out a job map given to them by the forester with the units to be logged, roads, cut specs., log lengths specs. and helicopter pad site with GPS Latitude & Longitude, which is great. The trouble is that sometimes those helicopter pad sites are a ways from the work site or those “coordinates” are written in a way we are not used to reading.

Like I said, there is a lot of good all-around information for the job on your SAP, but it is not an *Emergency Plan*!

Let’s face it, nobody knows when an accident is going to happen. When it does happen and someone is badly hurt, I guarantee you are going to be nervous, scared, and frazzled. It’s not like you practice for it, but it is your time to remember your training, step up and do the right thing. Your company’s Red Book holds the steps to follow if that time comes.

Logging Emergency Plan




**Logging Safety Bureau
State of Idaho**

Idaho State
Communications
800-632-8000
208-846-7610

If an injury occurs on your job site and you or your crew need medical attention,

You need a Helicopter!

**Call 1-800-632-8000
Or (208) 846-7610**

**WHEN MAKING THIS
EMERGENCY CALL:**

*What to say when the
Communication Center answers:*

1. Tell them it's an EMERGENCY
2. Tell them it's a LOGGING accident.
3. Tell them you NEED a helicopter.
4. Give them your exact location.
5. Briefly describe the injury. Is the injured person conscious and/or breathing?
6. Give them a call back number if available.
7. Report unusual weather conditions for helicopter.

*Preparations for the helicopter or
ambulance on the job:*

1. Identify available Helicopter Landing site (100 ft. diameter area)
 - a. Switch backs work well.
 - b. Remove all snags or unstable trees.
 - c. Remove loose materials (limbs, hard hats, etc.) from landing zone.
2. Directions by Road System
It is best if someone meets the ground crew ambulances. (Ambulances tend to have a hard time finding logging jobs, due to poor road conditions or the logistics of finding a logging job.)

If this plan is developed and communicated to the crew, confusion can be avoided and time saved.

*The numbers to call if you need
an Ambulance or Helicopter*

*What information needs to be
given to State Comm*

*Latitude and Longitude in De-
grees, Minutes and Seconds*

*Preparation for Helicopter and
Ambulance*

Direction by Road System

*If this plan is developed and
communicated to the crew, con-
fusion can be avoided and time
saved!*

**RED BOOK—MAKE SURE
EACH CREW HAS ONE AT
THEIR WORK SITE!**

JOB SITE SPECIFIC
LOGGING EMERGENCY PLAN
Call 1-800-632-8000
Or (208) 846-7610

For Job: _____

Employer's Name: _____

Call back Telephone #: _____

Company Radio Frequency: _____

Latitude _____
Degrees Minutes Seconds

Longitude _____
Degrees Minutes Seconds

Location where you must go to operate Phone
or Radio: _____

Directions by Road System: _____

LOG SAFE

***FIRST THERE WAS MURDER HORNETS.....
NOW WE HAVE KILLER CATERPILLARS!!!***

By Stan Leach

To be fair, the caterpillars I am referring to are *tree killers* not *people killers*, but they can have an impact on the people they come in contact with. I have some personal proof of that! I thought I would pass this story along to you loggers in case you run into these hideous creatures.

I was helping to do trail maintenance for an ATV club I belong to. We were cutting the brush along the trail that had grown out enough to rub the machines that were using the trail. A lot of it was alder that was about 8 feet high. The easiest way to cut it was to walk along the edge of the cutbank and cut the alder off just above ground level. This requires you to crowd in under the brush so you only have to cut one stem instead of several farther out. While doing this, I began to notice caterpillars all over the brush and soon I was brushing them off of my arms and neck. I didn't think much about it till later when back at camp I started itching. I took a shower and that seemed to help, but by the next afternoon I had developed a bright red rash on my neck and arms. The rash slowly turned into raised welts and then blisters.

When I got back home I asked my good friend *Google* about these caterpillars. Sure enough, they had a picture of the Red Fir Tussock Moth when in the caterpillar phase. It has a black hair rectangle on its back and sticking out of that is four tufts of pale yellow hair. It looks like a serrated mohawk. Along with this picture in big letters it says **WARNING: DO NOT TOUCH!!!** (Wow, that would have been good to know before last weekend).

Touching these critters can result in *Tussockosis*, which is an allergic reaction in some people. The most common symptoms are a red rash with welts or blisters (*got that*), watery eyes and runny nose, (*yep, got those too*). The good news is *Google* just saved me a trip to the doctor. The bad news is it can take a few weeks for the symptoms to disappear.

The treatment is easy, Benadryl and a topical steroid cream. If you see me wiggling around like a tweaker drinking red bull it is only because I am itching, not for any other reason.

My friend *Google* also told me it is best to wear a long sleeve shirt and gloves if you are in an area that has these caterpillars. (Again, that would have been good to know before last weekend!)

To be safe, don't touch these caterpillars. If you do, wash the area immediately with soap and water. If a rash develops, apply a steroid cream. In severe cases you could develop a shortness of breath, wheezing and chest tightness. If that happens see a doctor. If you see a caterpillar hair embedded in your skin, remove it using adhesive tape. The hairs, egg masses, and cocoons can all cause an allergic reaction if it touches your skin.



THREE CHAPS WALKED INTO A BAR.....

By Stan Leach

Sounds like the start of a good joke doesn't it? I can assure you the guys that shared with me the following three stories are not laughing.

The first sawyer had on the liner style chaps that fit inside the pants. While working, his saw kicked back, striking him in the leg. These chaps, which do not meet the cut protection standard, failed to stop the saw. Not only did they cut through, they wadded up to one side, leaving part of the leg unprotected.

The second sawyer had on the outside chaps, but they weren't long enough to overlap the boot top leaving an area unprotected. While falling, his saw kicked back striking him in that unprotected area. This resulted in a chunk of bone being removed from his leg.

The third sawyer wearing liner style chaps was moving to his next tree and sawing some brush as he went. He said that he essentially walked into the chain as he was moving forward. The saw cut straight through the chaps and into his leg.

All three of these accidents happened in my service area this logging season. I hope these are the only ones across the state (but I doubt it) so it might be worth reviewing the rules for chaps. OSHA has set a standard for cut protection. Any cut protection must meet the ASTM F 1897-98 standard or above. Any of the chaps that meet this standard will have a tag that says so. I have never seen a set of liner style chaps that meet this standard. The cut protection must extend from just below the waist to below the boot top so that it fully protects the leg.

There are several different styles of cut protection that do meet the standards. There are the outside style with the three clip straps to hook around the leg, the outside style that wrap around the lower leg so the straps don't get hung up, and there are the sawing pants with the cut protection built into them.

Every sawyer I have ever met is very proud of how sharp his chain is and the saws we use today are more powerful than ever. You can zip right through a tree, so think about how easily it would cut flesh and bone if there is nothing there that can stop it.

All the sawyers I have talked to have had a saw kick back at one time or another, so the odds are it will happen to you, so make the right choice ahead of time. Do I want to have the right cut protection so when the saw kicks back I get a bruise and a scare or do I want to suffer cuts to my leg and time off to heal? The sawyers that have switched to the right cut protection have all said it isn't near as bad as they thought it would be. Make the right choice; you'll be glad you did.

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FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY***

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