

# Idaho Logging Safety News

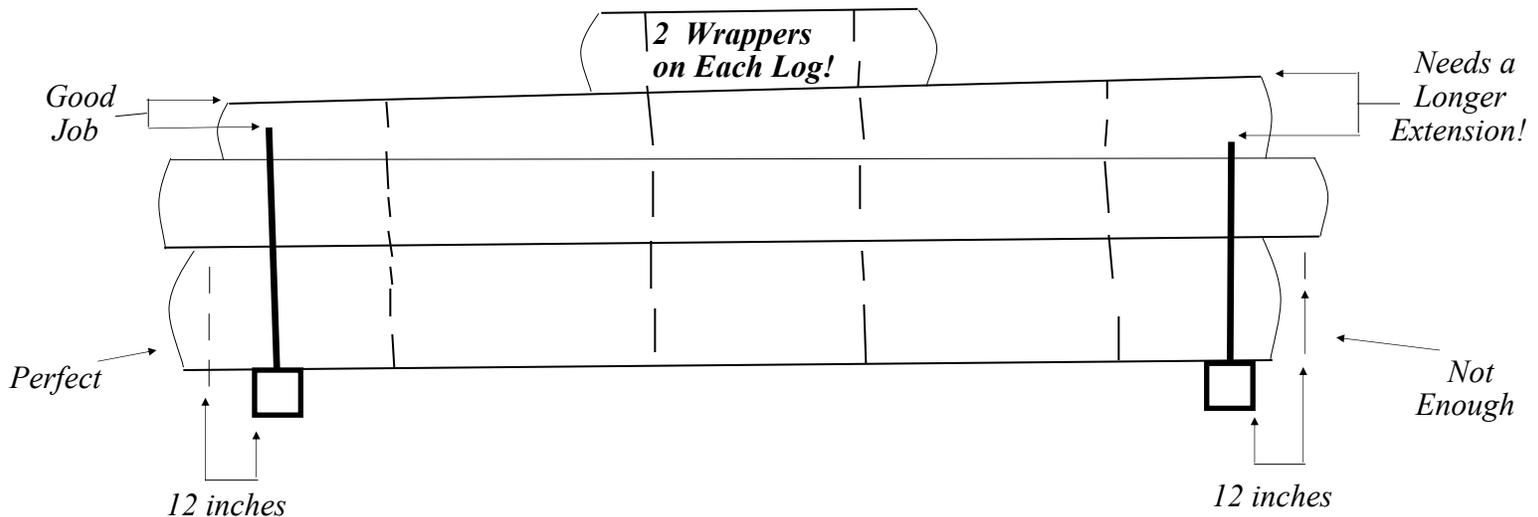
## Volume 30 Number 2



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Division of Building Safety, Logging Safety Program

Brad Little, Governor  
Chris Jensen, Administrator  
Molly & Jenna, Editors

### HERE IS THE STRAIGHT SKINNY ON: LENGTH OF "OVER-HANG" ON YOUR BUNK LOGS, WRAPPER PLACEMENT AND REQUIRED STAKE HEIGHT FOR THE TOP FACE LOG!



Some of the logging standards have been out there for a long time, while others have been updated a bit. We (loggers) have become a little lax over the years complying with a few of those standards....so now it is time we all get on the same page!

One of the standards is the length the end of your bunk logs are to the front / back of your log bunks. This measurement needs to be at least **ONE FOOT**.

Another is wrapper placement. We all know that a long log load requires **three** wrappers here in Idaho. After placing our wrappers in locations that provide for the most effective securement of the load however, it sometimes leaves us with only one wrapper for that short log on top. If you are running into this now and then, you probably need to throw a **fourth** wrapper in the chain box and use it accordingly.

Lastly, your stake extensions need to be long enough to cover *at least* half of that top face log.

You loggers do a great job and want to do things right. As a little bit of extra incentive to accomplish that goal, legislation was passed this spring allowing the state police / port of entry folks to enforce the logging safety standards. This goes into effect *July 1st* so we might as well start doing it right, right now.

*Just wanted to say a Big Thank You to a bunch of folks that make the Safety Classes go as smooth as a Safety Class can go. Doughnuts (and breakfast in a couple of places) were paid for by **WESTERN TRAILER** out of Boise, **WESTERN STATES EQUIPMENT** out of Lewiston and **LES SCHWAB** from several places around the state.*

*The class at Bonners Ferry was held at the **Kootenai River Inn Casino** and they not only provide doughnuts, they provided the room free of charge.*

*For the rest of the buildings we used around the state, the **ASSOCIATED LOGGING CONTRACTORS** picked up that bill.*

*Last, but not least, thanks to all the **LOGGERS** that attended. To sit through a training class annually and be as attentive and respectful as you are is a sign of the professionalism in the Logging Industry.*

**THANK YOU TO ALL...I KNOW YOU JUST CAN'T WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR!**

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### **A DOZER DEITY!**

*By Stan Leach (and appreciated by Monte, Terry, and Galen)*

Who do you know that looks like he is fifty, works like he is thirty, but you would have to combine those two to get close to his actual age? Meet **Marvin Brunette** who works for David Henderson Logging out of Lewiston. I caught up with Marvin last winter while he was skidding tree lengths with a 527. I had heard rumors that he was thinking of retiring, so I asked about his career. He said he had been logging for over sixty- three years.

We were going through the safety check list questions and when I got to the section on “job specific”



training, I said that I was embarrassed to ask if he had done that training this year. Here is a guy that has been logging longer than I have been alive.

He replied, “*Don’t hesitate to ask, that training is important. No matter how long you have been logging, you always need those safety reminders. You need to constantly be aware of your surroundings and never get to thinking that you know it all.*” He added that he learns something new almost every day.

Now, Marvin has spent a large part of his career building roads with a dozer. I suspect if you put a blindfold on him he could still put a road in to whatever grade you asked for. If a guy with that much talent and experience is talking about how important annual job training is, I’m going to listen! What a great message to all of us in the industry from a good man with a great attitude.

Thank you Marvin for sharing your wisdom. Retirement or not, we wish you well.

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## ***SEAT BELTS SAVE LIVES....AND THEY WORK IN THE WOODS TOO!!!***

*By Terry Streeter*

We are all aware that wearing the seat belt in your vehicle saves lives; statistics have overwhelmingly proven this. Most of us get into our rig, hook our seat belts, and drive away. That is great and we are safe. The problem is that we get to the woods, unhook the seat belt, get out of the pickup, crawl onto a skidder or cat, AND DO NOT USE THE SEAT BELT!

In the past, equipment operators worried about Jill-Pokes; having one come in the door opening, running them through and pinning them to the back of the seat before they could get the skidder stopped. Operators were also getting out setting chokers and it was a pain unhooking/hooking the seatbelt all day long, so we chose not to wear them.

Now days, most of the logging equipment have doors, screens, grapples and more comfortable seat belts. Still, some operators choose not to wear them.

When a machine rolls over, even with a screened cage, without a seatbelt on, your chances of being hurt go way up. When you go over, it usually goes like this: You grab for a handle on the inside of the cab or the steering wheel with arms extended out and try to hang on. There is nothing to hold you down in the seat! Now with that grip, you might be alright if you just flop over on your side, but who knows if that is all the further it will go. If it continues to roll, things get worse fast. You are upside down, everything is flying around and you are disoriented and getting beat-up in the cab. Maybe by now you cannot hold on, then what?

Again, with nothing to hold you in the seat, you go straight up when the machine is upside down, hitting the top of the cage with your unprotected head. With your weight and the momentum of the machine throwing you around, you can see how operators have broken their necks and died. Wearing a seat belt gives you the best chance for survival.

Oh, and besides all that, it is *the law!*

Logging machines manufactured after 1995 must have ROPS or FOPS protection. If a logging machine has ROPS or FOPS protection, it must have a seat belt or harness. If a logging machine has a seat belt or harness it must be worn at all times that machine is operated.

Employers need to make it clear that seat belts will be worn in their training of operators and document it.

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## ***WRAPPERS VS. ROAD SALT***

We have written several articles in the past talking about how the stuff they put on the roads in the winter eats away your logging equipment. Log trucks obviously get the brunt of it, damaging trailer reaches, scale pads, and completely annihilating the wiring. I recently got a "*Hey Galen, come over here and look at this*" request that opened my eyes to something else that the road crap likes to eat....your wrappers!

A couple of truck drivers had some wrappers laid out and they were twisting the cable open to do some "inspecting" and sure enough, there was significant deterioration in a couple of them. They thought those to be only a couple of years old.

Anyway, I just thought I would pass that along to give you one more thing to worry about. It is my job you know!

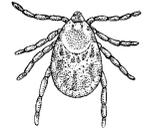
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## ***TICK, TICK, TICK...IT'S THAT TICK TIME OF THE YEAR!***

*By Monte (this makes me itch) Biggers*

It was mentioned to me that I needed to include information about tick bites during the first aid classes. I will have a section on them next year, but for now, here is some information I have found.

In Idaho, you are most likely to encounter the **WOOD TICK**. Wood ticks are generally brown or speckled brown, very flat, and have an extremely hard protective coating. They are 2 mm to 3 mm in diameter and are generally located on brush, trees or grassy areas (places loggers rarely go).



While wood ticks can carry several diseases, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever is one of the worst ones. The early symptoms are a high fever, chills, severe headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting and a red non-itchy rash. The rash generally appears on the wrists or ankles 3 to 5 days after the first signs and symptoms and can spread in any direction. Some people never develop a rash which hinders a quick diagnosis.

The other tick you may encounter in Idaho, or just over the border in Washington or Oregon, is the **DEER TICK**. Deer ticks are about 1 to 3 mm in length with a mostly black head and legs, and a body with hard-protective coating that is a solid reddish-brown color.



Deer ticks can carry Lyme disease. Some of the early symptoms of Lyme disease are rashes, fever, chills, fatigue and headache. Many people with early-stage Lyme disease also develop a distinctive circular rash at the site of the tick bite, usually around 3 to 30 days after being bitten. This is known as *erythema migrans*. The rash is often described as looking like a bull's-eye on a dart board.

For either tick, the CDC recommends removing them with fine tipped tweezers. You are supposed to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull upward with a slow steady motion. After removing the tick, you are supposed to clean the area with alcohol or soap and water.

If the head stays in the skin, you can try to remove it with a clean pair of tweezers. If you can't remove the head, you just clean the area and let it heal over. It generally takes 24 to 36 hours for a tick to transmit any disease and the pathogens are in the abdomen, not the head.



## ***CHANGES TO FIRE PROTECTION STANDARDS THAT EFFECT LOGGING***

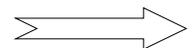
We were asked to pass this information along to the logging community. In 2019, fire protection standards to IDAPA 20.04.01 rules pertaining to Forest Fire Protection were amended to include fire protection standards for forest operations. These fire protection standards are required for forest operation activities conducted on all forest lands within Idaho. A few of the changes are:

*\*From July 1st through September 30th, every operator conducting a forest operation using a cable logging system or a metal tracked harvester shall have a water supply that meets the following minimum criteria.*

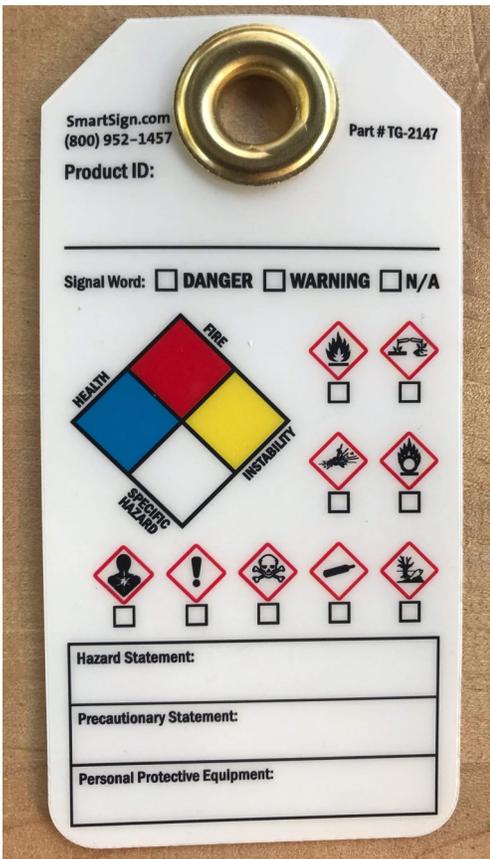
*\*\*A 200 gallon tank with a pump capable of discharging at least 20 gallons per minute through 50 feet of hose.*

*\*\*Operator must have a total of at least 500 feet of serviceable hose. Of the 500 feet, 200 feet must be available for immediate deployment with a nozzle attached.*

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## **LOGGERS MAY HAVE FOUND AN ANSWER ON HOW TO: LABEL YOUR CONTAINERS!**



Any chemical that you use must be in a properly labeled container. If you buy in bulk and fill your own containers, they also need to be properly labeled.

The federal requirements for secondary container labeling state that: *Workplace labeling include product identifier and words, pictures, symbols, or combination thereof, which provide at least general information regarding the hazards of the chemicals, and which, in conjunction with the other information immediately available to employees under the hazard communication program, will provide employees with the specific information regarding the physical and health hazards of the hazardous chemical”.*

Loggers from one end of the state to the other have tried about everything to get all that information on their jugs...and then keep it on them!

**Mark** and **Joe Mahon** of **Mahon Logging** have found a label that they think will work very well for this. It’s a tag they purchased from SmartSign.com that meets all the federal requirements and seems to be very durable. It can be hung on about any container and when filled out with an industrial Sharpie, it should last quite a while.

Remember, you still must have your SDS sheets on hand for the chemicals on the job. The labels only provide basic information. Whatever you use for container labeling, be sure it contains the proper information and remains legible.

*The Mahon Brothers, like the rest of the Idaho Loggers, continue to work hard to get their companies into compliance. Good Job!*

*\*The fire tools are now based on the number of people working the operation instead of the previous 10 person fire cache.*

People in Operation	2—5	6—8	9—10
Tool Box	1	1	1
Shovels	2	4	5
Pulaskis	2	4	4
5 Gallon Pump Cans Or Bladder Bags	1	1	2

*There are several other changes so it would be a good idea to contact the Idaho Dept. of Lands folks to find out exactly what you need to do before fire season starts.*

## ***OFFICE CHECKLIST – SAFETY RELATED ITEMS - STEPS TO HELP GET THINGS DONE RIGHT!***

Logging is considered a high risk industry therefore these rules apply:

1. 300 Log, which is a record of serious work related injuries and illnesses. Google OSHA 300 reporting to get all the information about two different forms, 300 and 300A, to see which ones you need. These records must be kept for five years. If you have more than ten employees at any time during the year, you have to “post” a printed copy from February through April each year. If you have twenty or more employees, you have to report electronically to OSHA as well as post the form.
2. Documentation of Job Specific Training on an annual basis.
3. Keep records of any supervisor’s inspection of an employee.
4. Keep records of the monthly boom and line inspections for line skidding operations. This also covers straps, extensions, blocks, and shackles. Also, keep track of the dates when lines are replaced, spliced, or you swap ends.
5. Keep records of your companies regular “tailgate” safety meetings. Some companies have the crews email a copy of their tailgate meetings to the office.
6. Keep records showing crew attendance at first aid training, safety classes, etc..
7. Records of dosimeter tests for all the machines your company has in use.
8. Records of the annual hearing tests for any employees exposed to noise levels over 85 Db. These records must be kept for the length of their employment.
9. Copy of the written climber rescue plan if you engage in climbing activities.
10. SDS sheets for all chemical products you have in the office, shop and each job site. These need to be kept at those locations.
11. Documentation of any company policies regarding worker safety or work practices.
12. Documentation of annual reach inspections if you operate logging trucks. Keep a copy in the truck.
13. Documentation of forklift training for anyone that operates a forklift.
14. Documentation of visual inspection of all jacks, jack stands, and any straps or chains that are used for lifting. This is to be done every six months.

***It sounds like a lot of work, but when you get it done, it takes a bunch of weight off those shoulders of yours! If we can help, contact one of your safety guys listed below.***

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### ***IDAHO LOGGING SAFETY ADVISORS***

***Terry Streeter 208 446 4149***

***Monte Biggers 208 369 6631***

***Stan Leach 208 512 2354***

***Galen Hamilton 208 553 6207***

***Log Safe....Then Document!***

Going along with #2 on the previous page, we have had several inquires asking where to get the *Job Specific Training* sheets.

The quickest and easiest way is to go to:

***dbs.idaho.gov*** → ***DBS Program*** → ***Logging Safety*** → ***Basic Job Safety Training Guidelines***.

Remember, these are just what we have come up with. It is *your* company, so you can make those guidelines say what you want. Going over these and having the crew sign off annually (and the new hires along the way) gives your logging company the required training documentation *plus* it makes your company's safety policy clear to ALL of your employees.

*While we are at it, going along with #12 on the previous page, below is an inspection sheet you can fill out regarding your trailer reach.*

**Annual Reach Inspection Documentation**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection done by: \_\_\_\_\_

Trailer number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assigned by owner or plate number)

Was there any evidence of damage:  
Cracks, pitting, corrosion, or surface deformity

No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ If yes describe corrective action taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Inspector signature: \_\_\_\_\_

***BASIC JOB SAFETY TRAINING GUIDELINES***

**MECHANICS**

JOB TASK: Oil, Grease, Repair Equipment, etc.

EMPLOYEE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. Review Company Accident Prevention Plan
- 2. Provide employee with a copy of Idaho Minimum Safety Standards for Logging to review job related rules.
  - Idaho Minimum Safety Standards for Logging (job related)
  - Company Accident Prevention Plan
  - Hazard Communication Plan (SDS sheet location)
- 3. Review:
  - Tag-Out Procedure
  - Blood-borne Pathogen Plan
  - Emergency Evacuation
  - Hazard Communication Program
- 4. Required Personal Safety Apparel when necessary:
  - Eye Protection
  - Hearing
  - Hand Protection (chemicals and solvents)
- 5. Energy Control:
  - Blocking
  - Lower Attachments
  - Release Pressures
- 6. Replace guards and screen when repair is completed.
- 7. Review with operator any temporary repairs
- 8. Housekeeping in the shop and the field
- 9. Fire Prevention:
  - Check fire extinguishers monthly

***NOW....GO SKID SOME DANG LOGS!!!!***

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## *The Idaho Logging Safety News*

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We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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