WASHINGTON STATE LOGGER SAFETY INITIATIVE

Keeping Washington loggers safe.

Quarterly Cutting Safety Training:

October 1, 2017

Why am I receiving this LSI Safety Training Packet?

LSI participants are required to annually attend approved LSI Employer Logger Safety program training. There are two parts to the required training: Formal Training and Safety Training (see the attached LSI Training Requirements for more details). This packet satisfies one of the four required Safety Trainings. The LSI employer must ensure that all workers receive four LSI required trainings per year.

How do I provide the training to my employees?

LSI Employers and supervisors, if delegated, and all employees engaged in manual logging operations must participate in at least four (4) LSI trainings on an annual basis. If you have employees that do ground operations, even if only occasionally, review the "In the Clear Rigging" safety training (found on our website) materials in detail and discuss the scenarios with employees.

What documentation is required?

LSI employers will document that the training took place as part of their safety minutes. Be sure staff has signed the safety meeting sign-in sheet. The completion of the training will be assessed at the annual DOSH LSI Consultation.

Each day timber cutters encounter many complex situations with identifiable and hidden hazards. This training contains three scenarios with questions. Please read each scenario with your crew and discuss how they would abate these hazards. Then compare that conversation to the recommendations at the end of the training.

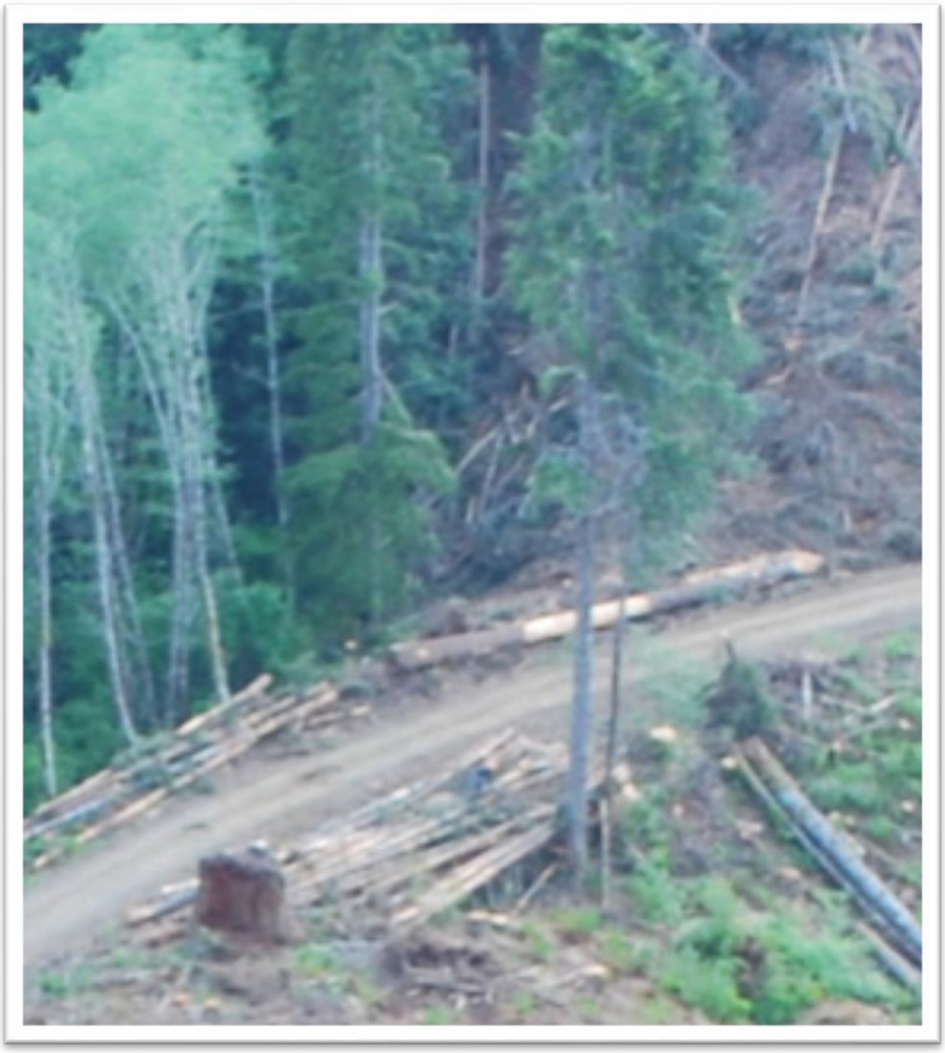
Scenario 1:

Description:

You are falling oversized timber behind a buncher that is brushed up. In the picture you can see that there is a buncher pile laying against the tree that is to be hand felled. The tops are all laying against the tree. The second picture is another view of the standing tree. It is an oversized hemlock with no perceptible lean and it needs to be felled side-hill to stay in lead with the bunched piles. The ground is 75% slope with deep brush mainly from the tops of previously felled trees by the feller buncher.

Questions for discussion:

1) Would you fall this tree?
2) If yes, what steps would you take to fall it?
3) What are the potential hazards?
4) How would you stop this hazard from occurring in the future?
5) Have you encountered a similar situation?



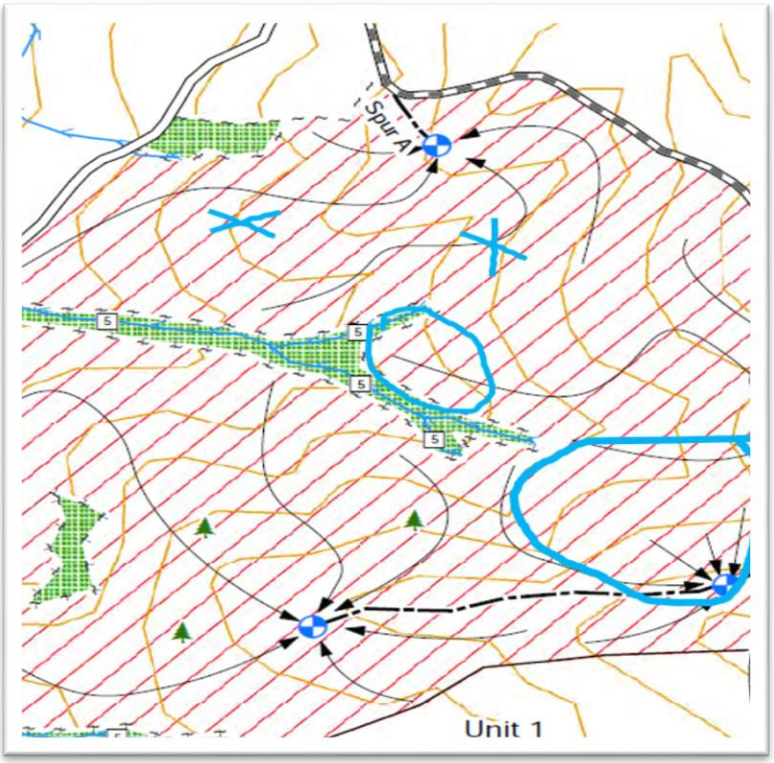
Scenario 2:

Description:

There is an oversized tree that needs to be felled along an active haul road and the unit has already been logged. The shovel logger decked several loads of logs up against the tree that needs to be cut.

Questions for discussion:

1) Would you fall this tree?
2) If yes, what steps would you take?
3) What are the potential hazards?
4) How would you stop this hazard from occurring in the future?
5) Have you encountered a similar situation?



Scenario 3:

Description:

You are handed a map by your contractor of a unit they are currently logging. You are familiar with the area and know how to get to the job, but you have never walked the unit. The contractor stated there is scattered oversized, the top of one RMZ, and 15 acres of tower ground to be felled. You are told the yarder will be there on Monday and a shovel is already logging the area with scattered oversized. On the map, he marks the areas where the trees are located.

The blue hand-drawn spots on the map are areas that need to be cut, and the two "x" marks are the oversize areas. It is Monday, the week before the yarder will be onsite, so you have 7 days to complete the job. You work for this contractor routinely and they are one of your main employers.

Questions for discussion:

1) Do you take the job?
2) What will your plan be?
3) What are some possible hazards with this scenario?
4) Have you ever encountered this situation?

Hazard Review

Below are some of the hazards associated with each scenario described above and some possible solutions. The hazard and solutions below do not include everything that may be encountered, but can help guide your discussion.

Scenario 1:

Hazards:

- No escape path.
- Trees in the bunched pile need to be bucked to clear an escape path.
- Probable hung up limbs in the tree to cut.
- Brushy ground.
- Possible unstable logs above the work area.
- It may be difficult to read tension and compression of felled trees because they may not be sitting on hillside very stable.

Possible Solutions:

If there is a machine onsite, have them move the buncher pile prior to felling the tree.

Wait until area is logged, then come back and fall the standing tree.

To stop this from happening again, have a discussion with operator and owner.

Scenario 2:

Hazards:

- Limited escape path.
- Truck traffic on the haul road.
- If tree is lost backward or sideways, there is a potential for the log deck to catapult the cutter.
- The log deck could shift at any time during falling.

Possible Solutions:

Wait or request that the deck be moved prior to falling the tree.

Talk with owner about not decking against standing trees because of the hazards it creates.

Talk with owner about the best time to have fallers come out so there are not additional hazards created.

Scenario 3:

Hazards:

- Not knowing the hazards of the job because it has not been walked yet.
- Not knowing which fallers to send to the job.
- Equipment already working in the unit.
- Being rushed to complete the job before the yarder is onsite.
- Fatigue from working as much as possible to finish before the yarder arrives.
- May have to hire an employee or subcontractor to complete the unit in time.

Possible Solutions:

Don’t take the job because of the hazards and time constraint.

Talk with the contractor and let them know time is needed to plan this unit before the job starts.

After receiving map, walk the job, then create a plan and address any issues with the contractor.