



## Logger Safety Initiative Quarterly Training

### 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.

## Spring and Summer Logging Environment Dangers – Quarter 3 2018

- Insects
- Lightening
- Sap run
- Dramatic weather pattern changes
- Snow melt/soft roads
- Baby animals

### **Insects:**

When spring and summer come around the insects emerge. Ticks, bees, mosquitos, horse and deer flies, and no-see-um's are among some of the common insects found in the logging environment. This is the time of the year to get the bug spray out, carry ribbon to identify bee's nests, ensure EpiPen's and inhalers are filled and carried if crewmembers are allergic, and perform nightly tick checks.

Photo Courtesy of Center for Disease Control

#### *Quick Tips:*

- If a beehive is found, mark it by hanging a ribbon when the bees are not active. Find the best possible way to work around the hive without exposing employees to stings. If anyone on the crew is allergic to bees, inform the crew and show them where the EpiPen or inhaler is located.
- Carry and apply insect repellent.
- At the end of the day, inspect for ticks. Typical locations of ticks bites are; armpits, around the ears, inside the belly button, back of the knees, between the legs, and around the waist.



### **Sap Run:**

In the spring, sap begins to run in trees making logs much slicker. When logs are processed in the spring, lots of bark are peeled off causing sap to run. This makes loading logs even more difficult because they can easily slide. For those bucking or walking on logs, chances increase for slips as well.

#### *Quick Tips:*

- Ensure caulks are sharp.
- Load trucks on level locations.
- Roll logs in dirt or lightly spread dirt on the load so logs do not slide as easily.
- Keep boom movements steady. Avoid sudden stops or jerking.
- Keep log decks level.
- Be extra cautious on small landings where logs can take off downhill. If a machine is assisting in the landing of logs have them only grab one at a time, ensure the machine

firmly grips the logs, and communicate with the rigging crew so they stay in the clear until all logs are stable.

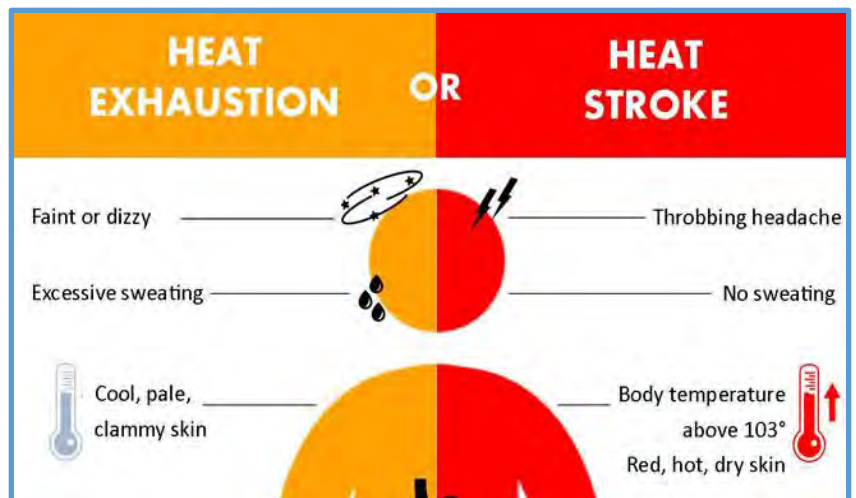
### Dramatic Weather Changes:

In the spring, the weather changes frequently. One day it can be 80 degrees with sun and the next day a snowstorm. This can make it difficult to be prepared for work. For those with physically demanding jobs it takes time for the body to adjust to weather changes.

#### Quick Tips:

- Keep seasonal gear on the job site (i.e. rain gear, waterproof boots, warm gloves, warm hats, and water).
- Monitor the weather forecast, dress accordingly, and bring water.
- Review heat-related illness by May.
- When temperatures rise, slow down and do not overexert. Give your body time to adjust.
- If weather conditions make work unsafe, stop operations.

Photo Courtesy of Center for Disease Control



### Snow Melt:

High elevations in Washington state experience snow melts during the spring. This can cause the roads to be soft, waterways to rise, and melting snow on roads can make them very slippery for walking or driving.

#### Quick Tips:

- Do not drive on the shoulders of logging roads, as they will likely be soft.
- Even though it may be sunny, still carry chains and crampons for boots.
- Drive and walk with caution.
- Waterways can rise quickly. Keep a close watch on the potential for flooding.

### Lightning:

Along with the dramatic weather patterns is the possibility for lightening. When working around lightening here are some tips from National Lightening Safety Institute.

([http://lightningsafety.com/nlsi\\_pls/multi\\_recommendation.html](http://lightningsafety.com/nlsi_pls/multi_recommendation.html), 1998). The information below applies to both cutting and yarding.

- If the time delay between seeing the lightning flash and hearing thunder bang is less than 30 seconds, individuals should be in or seek a safer location.
- Many lightning casualties occur in the beginning as the storm approaches. In addition, many occur after the perceived threat has passed. Generally, the threat has diminished after the last sound of thunder, but may persist for more than 30 minutes.
- Avoid being in or near:
  - High places
  - Open fields
  - Isolated trees
  - Communication towers
  - Metal fences
  - Water
- Safer locations include:
  - Large enclosed structures
  - Fully enclosed metal vehicles (trucks, cars, busses, vans) with windows rolled up. Avoid contact with metal or conducting surfaces outside the vehicle
- Create an action plan in advance.
- Watch weather forecasts.
- Most lightning victims can survive especially with timely medical treatment.
- Call 911 and follow your emergency medical plan if an individual is struck by lightning.
- Individuals struck by lightning do not carry a charge and it is safe to touch them to assist with first aid treatment.
- It is relatively unusual for victims who survive lightning strikes to have major fractures or major bleeding unless they have suffered a fall or have been thrown a distance.
- Rescuers are cautioned to minimize their exposure to lightning.
- If the victim is not breathing, perform CPR.
- When you hear or see a storm approaching your yarding or cutting crew, act as soon as possible. Move to a safe location, such as a crew bus, or cancel work for the rest of the day. Move the crew bus or vehicles a safe distance away from the rigging, landing equipment or lone standing trees as soon as possible to minimize risk.

Photo Courtesy of NIOSH Outdoor Hazards



### Baby Animals:

Spring is a time for new life not only with plants but also with animals. As you are out working in the forest, you may encounter fawns, calves, cubs, and kittens. Mothers are especially protective of their young and caution needs to be taken when encountered.

#### *Quick Tips:*

- Carry bear spray if in bear country.

- If walking through the woods periodically make loud noises this will lessen the chance of a surprise encounter. You can talk loudly, sing, or wear a bell.
- If you do run into a mother bear and cubs:
  - Remain calm.
  - Ready bear spray.
  - Bears defending food may be as aggressive as those defending their young.
  - Back away slowly.
  - Walk don't run.
- When you are close to bears they may pop their jaw, swat the ground with their front feet while blowing and snorting, and a bluff charge trying to get you to leave.
  - In this situation, the bear does not want to fight.
  - Appear non-threatening and calm.
  - Speak in an appeasing voice.
  - Back away and leave the area.
- While rare, a bear may attack. In Washington, you will typically encounter a black bear and there are different actions to take depending on species. For black bears (National Park Service):
  - Remain calm.
  - Try to escape.
  - Use bear spray if you have it.
  - Make yourself look big.
  - Hit it on the nose and face with fists, rocks, or sticks.
  - Black bears do not tend to be aggressive.
- If you encounter a cougar (WDFW):
  - Stand tall.
  - Do not approach the animal especially if it has kittens.
  - Try to appear larger than the cougar.
  - Never take your eyes off the animal, turn your back, crouch down, or try to hide.
  - If the animal acts aggressive, shout, wave your arms, and throw rocks. Try to convince the cougar you are not prey but a potential danger.
  - If the cougar attacks, fight back aggressively and try to stay on your feet. Cougars have been driven away by people who have fought back.
- If you experience cougar or black bear problems and it is not an emergency contact your nearest Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife office.  
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regions/>

Photo courtesy of WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

