

Washington State's Logger Safety Initiative Accord

Goal: The Washington State Logger Safety Initiative, in partnership with private land owners, the Washington Contract Loggers Association, logging companies, the Washington Department of Natural Resources and the Washington Department of Labor & Industries, will focus on ways to promote occupational safety, reduce the frequency and severity of workplace injuries and fatalities, increase proper reporting, and explore options for reducing costs, in an effort to create a culture of safety that is pervasive throughout the logging industry in Washington State.

Objectives:

- Create a Logger Safety program that establishes sector-wide standards for worker training, performance and supervision.
- Establish a certification process for individual company safety programs to ensure compliance with sector-wide standards and review progress of logging operations through mandatory performance based audits.
- To the extent practical, create an environment of shared learning that fosters honesty and rewards self-reporting of incidents.

Core Beliefs:

- We believe that all fatalities and injuries are preventable.
- We believe in a culture where the health and safety of all workers is the highest priority.
- We believe that excellence in health and safety is possible and is important to our long-term success.

Shared Responsibilities:

- As an industry, we must embrace a culture of safety. We are collectively and individually responsible for the safety of all workers and all worksites.
- As an individual, we must assume responsibility for complying with all applicable safety rules, procedures and practices, refusing to perform unsafe work, and taking collective responsibility for the unsafe conduct of others.
- As an employer and landowner, we must take a leadership role in ensuring worker health and safety is our number one priority and assuring accountability for safety on the worksite.

Recognition of Safety Performance & Practices:

- The commitment to health and safety is to all workers, not just direct employees. When engaging contractors, sub-contractors and other to provide services, the selection process and administration of contracts will include recognition and support of good safety performance and practices.
- Employers will recognize and support the safety performance of their employees.
- All employers and landowners will give weight to the safety record and current practices of companies in the awarding of contracts.

Continual Improvement: We are committed to the on-going improvement of our practices and support efforts to develop and implement new methods, procedures and technologies that have the potential to improve the health and safety of our industry.