Oregon OSHA
Forest Activities Advisory Committee
March 9, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Steve Aulerich	Mark Gustafsen	Rocky Shampang
Tom Bozicevic	Rod Huffman	Bruce Skurdahl
Gary Bullock	Larry Kirkpatrick	Mark Standley
Frank Chandler	Tyson Losli	Tyler Teal
Mike Coiner	Dan Lundy	Kathy Thomas
Mark Dvorscak	Nate McMurtrey	Vince Wilbur
Jim Gahlsdorf	Mike Montgomery	Jeff Wimer
John Garland	Craig Olson	

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

The group introduced themselves.

The group approved the December 8, 2016 meeting minutes.
Minutes approved with one recommendation made regarding "factor of safety for wire rope." Remove the words "breaking strength" and replace with "design tension."

Continuing business:

Securing loads with machines when removing wrappers:
Guest speakers from Siletz Trucking (Kathy Thomas and Gary Bullock) discussed their experiences after an accident in 2013 where one of the drivers was struck by a log that came of the load as he was removing the wrappers. The injured driver has been off work for 2 years and can no longer work in this industry.

Guest speakers have found:

- Lack of continuity at the mills, expectations are different from mill to mill.
- Short logs on mule trailers are easier to unload because logs don't hanging off the end like long logs but where the driver stands it is still an issue.
- Signage has been better, but they are often in the wrong place to be effective.
- Signs at front gates are more convenient to read for drivers who are waiting to unload.
- Some mills have drivers walk under the forks, and some require them to walk behind the unloading machine.
- If no wrapper rack is available, next safest method is to fully encompass the load (still a risk if there is a short log on top).
- A best practice is to take a photo of the yard rules signs and created a book for drivers to know the procedures at each mill before arriving, but they become out of date quickly.

Suggestions:

- Cameras could be used to look at top of load - there has been success in WA.
- Stake extensions could resolve a lot, it would eliminate falling logs due to crowning.

- Constant communication between driver and unloaded operator.

Action Items:

- It was recommended that research may be done in other states to see what has been done.
- Review MSHA regulations for safety procedures when entering mining sites, and attach rules to the minutes. 30 CFR 46.11:
    - ***46.11 Site-specific hazard awareness training.***
      (a) You must provide site-specific hazard awareness training before any person specified under this section is exposed to mine hazards.
      (b) You must provide site-specific hazard awareness training, as appropriate, to any person who is not a miner as defined by §46.2 of this part but is present at a mine site, including:
        (1) Office or staff personnel;
        (2) Scientific workers;
        (3) Delivery workers;
        (4) Customers, including commercial over-the-road truck drivers;
        (5) Construction workers or employees of independent contractors who are not miners under §46.2 of this part;
        (6) Maintenance or service workers who do not work at the mine site for frequent or extended periods; and
        (7) Vendors or visitors.
      (c) You must provide miners, such as drillers or blasters, who move from one mine to another mine while remaining employed by the same production-operator or independent contractor with site-specific hazard awareness training for each mine.
      (d) Site-specific hazard awareness training is information or instructions on the hazards a person could be exposed to while at the mine, as well as applicable emergency procedures. The training must address site-specific health and safety risks, such as unique geologic or environmental conditions, recognition and avoidance of hazards such as electrical and powered-haulage hazards, traffic patterns and control, and restricted areas; and warning and evacuation signals, evacuation and emergency procedures, or other special safety procedures.
      (e) You may provide site-specific hazard awareness training through the use of written hazard warnings, oral instruction, signs and posted warnings, walkaround training, or other appropriate means that alert persons to site-specific hazards at the mine.
      (f) Site-specific hazard awareness training is not required for any person who is accompanied at all times by an experienced miner who is familiar with hazards specific to the mine site.
    - ***46.11** Q&A about site specific awareness*

- Bring D2/R Sawmill Rules to next meeting
- Check with Worksafe BC is doing
- Send Tom contacts for mills who encompass log loads with machines
- Send Tom thoughts on possible solutions

Tethered logging variance update:

- 1 new variance since December's meeting, 10 total operators
- The committee reviewed a summary of tethered logging research variances for Jun. 2016 – Dec. 2016.

Tethered logging safety alerts and potential issues:

- Tom informed the committee that a safety alert identified a potential issue with cable assist drawbars which were designed and certified using engineering calculations that were based on direct pull (vertical) rather than side pull (lateral). Since side pulling often occurs with this type of operation, this possible concern of lateral and vertical resistance may partially explain the higher frequency of repairing or replacing end-connectors. Recommendation from the committee – revise general provisions for tethered logging research variances to prohibit quick nubs ferrules (split-wedge ferrule) shall not be used for normal operations (emergency only), and specify drawbar and connector inspections must take into consideration wear due to side loading.

Cab protection for tethered logging winch-based machine and moving anchor:
The committee discussed what level of operator protection is required for the winch-based machine. Tethered logging research variances only permit alternative methods for operator protection addressed under the steep slope restrictions of 437-007-0935, and does not include a reduction in the level of operator protection provided by protective structure requirements under 437-007-0770, 437-007-0775, and 437-007-0780. Due to the possible autonomous operation of the winch-based machine during tethered logging operations, violative conditions regarding operator protection for the winch-based machine may be considered de minimis if there is no employee exposure (no one in the cab). However, if an employee occupies the winch-based machine while the tethered line(s) is under tension from the harvesting machine, the cab of the winch-based machine must meet the applicable protective structure requirements based on the machines original date of manufacture.

Manufacturer requirements when operating ATVs
Tom provided a report of 2011-2015 accepted claims in logging accidents involving ATVs. The committee is not interested in addressing the use of helmets and ATVs.

Can we use the 'tail tree' table in D7 Appendix 7-B as a guide for single tree supports?
One committee member compared the downward compression forces on a tail tree assuming a 7/8 swaged skyline to the downward compression forces of a 10,000 pound force on a single tree support jack. The downward force on the tail tree was approximately 1.5 times more force on the single tree support. Based on this very preliminary information the use of the tail tree table would be conservative in using it to determine single tree support tree sizes. There were concerns, the bending of single trees, and the different forces imposed on single trees which are not all downward. There may also be an issue passing a load over the intermediate support.

One member indicated that the table was developed after the logging industry had asked for assistance because tail trees being used at the time were failing. The tail tree table was created by breaking trees. One committee member indicated that it is important to realize that young fast growing trees will not be as strong as older slower growing trees with the same diameter. The current table may not represent the sizes appropriate for faster growing and therefore weaker trees. In the past, trees were more substantial than trees today and when the table was developed.

Can we get someone out on a stretcher on a skyline?
Currently 437-007-0925(1) does not allowed employees to ride the rigging. However, per Oregon OSHA Policy Memorandum, dated March 10, 2010, *"Oregon OSHA's policy is that we will allow use of the rigging to assist in rescuing an injured employee in emergency situations if it is the best available method to safely extricate the worker when taking into account the severity of the injury, degree of difficulty to extricate the worker based on the terrain and the need for timely access to medical services. When evaluating whether a particular instance was justified it is important to determine if the employer included this as part of their emergency medical plan and site planning and implementation."*

A committee member passed out medevac procedures he developed; however, as a general practice, Oregon OSHA does not approve external products or services. Rulemaking recommendation: Establish and practice general evacuation plans.

Quarterly Overnight Hospitalizations & Fatalities Report (Q2FY2017):
The committee reviewed the one fatality and two hospitalizations reported to Oregon OSHA since the previous meeting.

Roundtable:
No time

Meeting ended at 1:06 p.m.

Next Meeting
When: Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.
Where: Associated Oregon Loggers Office, 2015 Madrona Ave SE, Salem, OR 97302