

**Oregon OSHA  
Forest Activities Advisory Committee  
December 12, 2019  
Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Steve Aulerich  
Francisca Belart  
Dave Boyd  
Tom Bozicevic  
Mike Coiner  
Stephanie Ficek  
John Garland  
Rod Huffman

Larry Kirkpatrick  
Kevin Lyons  
Teresa Lundy  
Dave McLaughlin  
Brett Morressette  
John Myers  
Greg Pellham  
Wayne Oja

Joey Sayles  
Bruce Skurdahl  
Renée Stapleton  
Jeff Wimer  
Michael Wood  
Asa Yraguen

**Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m.**

The group introduced themselves.

The group discussed the September 12, 2019 meeting minutes. The group recommended no changes, and **approved the September 12, 2019 meeting minutes.**

**Action Items from September 12 Meeting Updates**

**Management Requiring Condition and Unexpected Events (PNASH Grant), Kevin Lyons**

Kevin Lyons presented a study from British Columbia on hand falling. In this study, a researcher went out with the fallers and reported hazards and near misses in about 1,500-2,000 felled trees to give them data and track trends. He clarified the following terms in the study:

- Management requiring condition (MRC) that requires a decision and an action with a possible hazard.
- Unexpected event (UE) that has the potential to severely injure someone.

The study applied severity levels to the tracked unexpected events. They discovered that individuals had varied sensitivity to risk, thus severity levels are somewhat subjective. Kevin also reported on a rigging crew study, using the same MRC and UE terms and severity levels assigned. In this project, workshops helped review codes and develop test scenarios, when onsite data tracking is not possible. They may look to our group for workshop participants and field testing. They will primarily be using student loggers. This project is to be completed in one year.

**Action Item:** Members can contact Kevin Lyons if they are interested in participating in a workshop. Kevin will also reach out to Tom in January and communicate workshop dates to the group.

### **Citations and outcomes for accident and fatality investigations**

Renée reported that Oregon OSHA's logging accident and fatality web page has been finalized and is live. <https://osha.oregon.gov/pubs/reports/Pages/forest-activities-incidents.aspx> The group can find the report on the A to Z page or the forest activity committee web page. Individual and company identifiers have been removed from the accident reports. Oregon OSHA is open to suggestions for the report going forward. Oregon OSHA will continue to publish fatality and injury reports on this page as they happen. Renée sent the report to Washington Dept. of Labor and Industry.

Tom reported that Oregon OSHA developed a draft template for a publication that highlights accidents in the workplace, specifically logging, based on a suggestion from this committee. It may be used for other industries. The current title, is "incident alert," but that has not been finalized. Tom will make this template available electronically to the group. The material will be developed in English and Spanish. This publication would be issued as a snapshot after an Oregon OSHA accident investigation is closed.

**Action Item:** Members give ongoing feedback for logging accident and fatality web page.

### **Review of steep-slope logging research project and operator conditions, John Garland**

John reported that OSU's steep-slope research project has been completed. This completion leads to an opportunity to develop code language. The variance language gives a starting point for the code language. The specific rules we are looking at are under 437-007-0935 Operation of Ground Skidding Machines and Vehicles.

John is asking the group for a consensus for *concepts* of proposed code language for tethered logging. The language will be further developed to ensure it is enforceable before it is proposed as code language. He clarified each concept with the group and we will distribute a survey to capture votes from the group.

**Action Item:** Members respond to survey when it comes via email.

### **Radio permits**

Renée reported that Oregon OSHA manages approximately 15 radio permits per year. Washington also manages their radio control program, which includes digital as well as analog, and is a much more substantial program. Washing and Oregon met together with the primary radio control manufacturer, Roth and Buhler, where they informed us that they can no longer provide service for systems prior to 1978. The purpose of our radio control program is to ensure we don't have duplicate signals. Ideally, we would like to create a combined database with Washington. The group doesn't believe that there will be an issue with not being able to manage systems prior to 1978, since they are mostly obsolete.

**Action Item:** None.

### **Bugs in the Brush**

Tom passed around the updated version of this publication. He used feedback from Oregon OSHA logging staff. This publication will be issued as a guidance document.

**Action Item:** Members give comments to Tom by the end of the year.

### **Quarterly Overnight Hospitalizations & Fatalities Report (Q1/2020)**

The committee reviewed the accidents and fatalities reported to Oregon OSHA between July and October 2019. The group discussed the fatalities and accidents.

### **Power lines: 437-007-0230 Power Line Safeguards**

Tom shared that Oregon OSHA was approached by an employer that was cutting trees 40 feet from power lines and there was uncertainty on what the employer should do when the power company tells them to 'just be careful.' Tom passed around a copy of 437-007-0230 and asked the group to give their opinion of the rule language which states that when working near power lines where a tree could fall within 15 feet of a power line, the employer and the power company must complete "mutually satisfactory safety measures." Tom asked what the intent was when the rule was promulgated and what would be considered "mutually satisfactory safety measures." The group mentioned that contacting the power company and getting something in writing is their understanding of this requirement.

**Action Item:** Oregon OSHA will talk to PUC about developing best practices.

**Meeting adjourned 12:28 p.m.**