

SAFETY BULLETIN

Associated California Loggers

August 2008

MID SEASON CHECK UP

Most of you have been working for several months. It is time to step back and check to ensure that you have taken care of all the "little things" to help have a profitable season.

The following is a sample checklist of items that need to be in place:

Fire Prevention

- Do you have all the required fire tools on the job site?
- Does your fire box have the tools in the proper amount for your size company?
- Does your fire pump start and are all the employees trained on how to operate the pump?
- Are the fire pump and fire box on or near the active landing? Are the tools in good shape with sharp cutting edges and good handles?
- In California, does each piece of equipment have a shovel? Does each passenger vehicle have an ax and shovel?
- Do the log trucks have a shovel if you are hauling on private ground or an ax and shovel if you are hauling on the Federal Government ground? Have the handles been inspected?
- Is your fire watch organized?
- Have you provided all required equipment and training?
- Are you keeping a log of daily fire watch activities?

All of these items are important in helping to prevent a catastrophic fire. If a fire does break out on your job site, the investigators will be looking to see if you complied with all requirements. Protect yourself and ensure your fire prevention policy and practices meet or go beyond the local standards where you are working.

Other Items

- Do you require all employees driving company vehicles or personal vehicles to drive with the head lights on at all times? Having the head lights on at all times makes it easier for other drivers to see your vehicles.
- Do you have "Truck Entering" signs placed along roads where your log or chip trucks are entering the road? This is a must do; so motorists will be warned that trucks may be entering the road from an unmarked road.
- Do all the log truck and lowboy drivers know the Federal Rules for securing the load? A rule of thumb is that all long loads will need four wrappers to be secured legally.
- Do you require all employees driving company vehicles or personal vehicles to drive with the head lights on at all times? Having the head lights on at all times makes it easier for other drivers to see your vehicles.
- Equipment must be secured with G70 grade chain. The method used by most drivers will require that the aggregate working load limit of the chain must equal 100 percent of the weight of the equipment being hauled.

Let's add to this years' potential for profit by ensuring we are following safe work practices along with the rules and regulations of our State and/or Federal Governments.

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