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Brad Little, Governor
Russell Barron, Administrator

The Cowboy Rides Away

Terry Streeter, longtime Logging Safety employee, has decided to retire. Part Steven Spielberg, part Mark Twain with a dose of Rip from Yellowstone thrown in, Terry has been helping the loggers of Idaho for over thirteen years as part of the Logging Safety crew. He had a long career in the logging industry before joining Logging Safety in 2010. He put all that experience to good use when working with all the loggers in north Idaho.

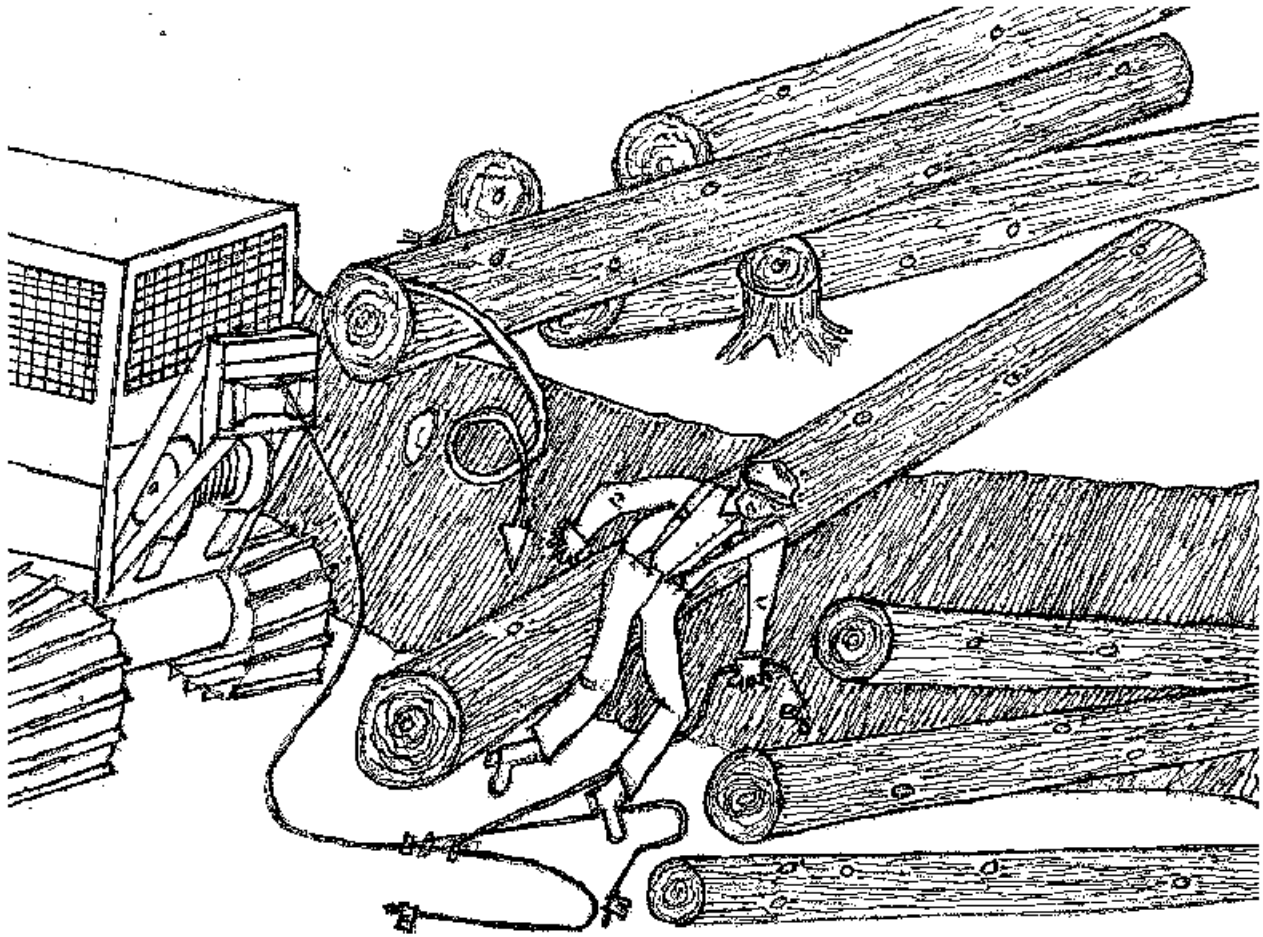
His film talents were obvious, when each year we had to film new segments for the first aid classes. Terry consistently put together the best videos including some very creative special effects. I can still remember the first year that a professional film crew was hired to do the directing and filming of Terry's video idea. Terry was always pretty intense during the filming process, to the point that he yelled out CUT!! when he thought the scene should be over. Those professionals didn't realize who they were dealing with.

The Mark Twain reference comes from Terry being a natural story teller. His ability to get you fully invested in a story before unleashing a startling punch line is nearly unmatched. Many times he has left a whole room full of people laughing at his latest yarn.

Terry insists that he is often mistaken for Rip from Yellowstone when he has on the cowboy hat and dark glasses, so I threw that in for good measure. However you might describe him, there is no denying the impact he has had on Idaho's logging industry. He will be missed. Terry says he will miss being apart of the logging industry and interacting with all of you on a regular basis. He said he will not miss having to work with a computer. He plans to start traveling and spending a lot more time with family and friends. Thank you Terry!! We wish you Happy Trails ahead.



Terry Streeter (shown at left) proudly displays the Oscar he won this year for Best New Video for the first aid classes. The trophy and the idea was provided by Shawn Ogden



We had an accident last summer when a sawyer falling trees for a dozer was struck by a tree length. He fell a couple of trees back with one tree resting atop the stump of the other. These trees were on the uphill side of the trail. When the dozer came back the sawyer went down to help him get hooked up. As he started pulling the chokers over the fairlead the tree that had been resting on top of the stump slid off coming down into the trail striking the sawyer in the leg breaking a bone. He was transported to the hospital treated and released the same day and was back at work after he healed up. After looking at the accident scene I am not so sure I wouldn't have done the same thing. The tree had been sitting on the stump for several minutes before it slid off. I guess we just have to always be aware of our surroundings and think about stored energy and which way things could move.

DRAWING by Terry Streeter, a man of many talents.

Inquiring Minds Want to Know

By Stan Leach

Thank you, to all of you that attended this years first aid classes. There were almost 2100 people that attended this year. There is a lot of time and effort that goes into creating the content for these classes. We try to have different videos to help keep things informative and interesting. We provide the first aid classes around the state for free to all that want to attend. You guys get to walk out fully trained for the upcoming season and only have to invest a little of your time. It is in the federal OSHA regulations that all employees must have first aid training before they start working and it is in the Idaho Minimum Standards for Logging that anyone performing work associated with a logging operation shall be required to complete an approved first aid course and have a current card.

Those of you that chose not to attend can still meet the OSHA rules by attending an in person first aid class and then going over the OSHA training in your safety plan. You can do a simple Google search for an in person first aid class in your area. If you choose to not be in compliance with the rules you are putting your crew and your company at risk. If you have an accident on your job and your crew doesn't know how to respond the situation quickly goes from bad to worse. Not only is the health of the injured employee at risk, OSHA fines for non-compliance are often thousands of dollars, and insurance companies aren't too interested in covering companies that don't take the required steps to protect their employees.

We always ask for feedback from you guys and try to answer any questions that you have. One of the questions from this year was about the drug overdose information. That is something that is on the list of items to be covered for the class to be OSHA compliant. Hopefully this is not something you have to deal with at work, but the large increase in fentanyl related incidents in Idaho means the odds of you being exposed are growing. Better for you to be prepared ahead of time than to find out the hard way.

Another question that was asked by a few different people was for us to put together a downloadable reference guide for the first aid information. We cover so much information that many were concerned that they wouldn't remember it all when needed. There is a written reference guide in the first aid kits that the ALC puts together and a few of the other kits I have checked have them as well. Having that information on your phone though seems like a pretty good idea, so we have taken on that challenge. In researching this question we found a free downloadable app from the Red Cross. If you go to the App store app look for First Aid: American Red Cross. Click on that and then click on the emergency first aid section. You can download that to your phone or device. That way you will have all that info at your fingertips if you ever need it. It covers what to do for all the first aid sections that we cover in class. It even goes over FAQs. There you go problem solved.

Please keep in mind as we gear up for another logging season that the person most responsible for your safety is YOU. You have to make hundreds of decisions every day that affect your safety. The more times that you make the right choices the fewer accidents we have. You have people in your life that count on you to come home every day in one piece, lets not let them down. Let's have a safe and productive logging season!

Fire Preparedness
By: Wayne Lynn

Fire season is quickly approaching. The IDAPA 20.04.01 – Rules Pertaining to Forest Fire Protection identifies the period from May 10 to October 20, or as designated by the Director due to conditions of unusual fire danger pursuant to Section 38-115, Idaho Code, as the official fire season.

During this period, you need to make sure that you have all of the required equipment and follow the outlined procedures as set for in the Idaho Code. Please be sure that everyone on your crew knows the Emergency Fire Contact Channel/Call Number. It is also important that all crew members know how to use the fire equipment that you are expected to have.

If you are unsure of the requirements, be sure to check the Rules listed above. You can find a complete set of these Rules online or you may contact the Idaho Department of Lands, Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protective Association, or the Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association that covers your area. Understand that fire wardens may impose additional requirements based on fire danger. Also, landowners or the companies you work for may have additional requirements.



JOB OPENING

With Terry Streeter's retirement comes an opportunity for someone out there. If you are passionate about the logging industry and interested in helping your fellow workers stay safe, then you have what it takes to be part of the Logging Safety Team. This is a full time 40 hour a week position that includes full state benefits including a PERSI retirement. This job will cover the Plummer to Bonners Ferry service area.

The application period will open on May 5, 2023 so if you are interested in being part of a team that is making a difference in Idaho's logging industry please go online and apply at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/idaho>

Times have changed, but the hazards have not.

From the desk of Shawn Ogden

This took place in 1918, from the book, Never Chop Your Rope. Tom and Joe Garner were 12 and 10 years old when this happened to them.

“The wind 's getting pretty wild, yeah, better we get this one down and call it a day,” As he drove the wedges in with the heavy sledge, I was told to watch for any sign of the broken branches coming down. Two small ones shook loose, but the wind carried them off to the side. We worked on the back cut until there was 3 inches of wood holding on each side. “I’ll wedge her over from here, you pull the saw as far your way as you can, hold it, then take it out as she starts to fall,” Tom ordered. We’ve done this dozens of times. With the saw pulled toward me until the handle on the other side was tight against the bark, I stepped back, holding on with both hands. I kept looking up in case another limb broke loose. Every blow of the sledge would make the tree quiver and move forward a couple of inches at the top. She was about ready to go on her own, so I looked to the backcut. Then it happened! In a flash, I was standing there with the broken end of the saw in my hands and looking at the four-foot chunk of a big fur limb quivering in the ground a few inches away from my right foot. Without a sound, this limb had speared from 130 feet up, struck the saw dead center about 6 inches out from the trunk, and snapped it off with a loud “ping”. The next gust took the tree over, and Tom was able to see me standing there stunned, holding the handle with a short piece of saw attached. It must have looked funny because he started laughing! I had to laugh with him. Tom laid the broken saw on the stump and together we tried to pull the widow maker out of the ground but couldn't. I was shaking now, probably in shock, when Captain Justice walked out to see what had happened. I showed him exactly where I had been standing. He shook his head in disbelief. He tried to remove the limb but couldn't budge it.

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First Aid Classes

By Terry Streeter

I'm glad to be finished with the first aid classes for this year. I helped teach 27 classes, most were two classes each day. The days start with getting to the venue at 6:00am to haul in the supplies and start setting up chairs and hooking up speakers. In 11 hrs. we will be picking up chairs and unhooking the speakers and haul everything back to the pickup and head to the next town that could be 3 hours away where the next days classes will be and start over. But I think it is worth it, we cover a lot of material and always ask if there are any questions. We even at certain times ask if anyone has any ideas for a video we can work on.

We often hear from people, at the classes, who have had to help with a rescue or administer first aid to a patient. All say the same thing. I was glad that I had some idea of what to do. Most of these folks say the only training they ever got was in the logging first aid class. We really appreciate those comments, it makes all the effort worthwhile.

I often practice my segments on the road over and over hoping to say everything right and not forget anything and mess up. Which sometimes happens to the other guys.

We have the classes this time of year because it is spring breakup which is usually when people are not working because of mud and load limits.

If we didn't teach these classes each year, there would be 2100 loggers and truckers swamping every Red Cross, fire station, or private company that teaches first aid training, trying to get it and spending big money for it. I wonder what percentage of that 2100 would get it done.

All we ask is that you register ahead of time. Show up on time. Pay attention and listen to what we are teaching you for four hours. It is free, and did I mention the donuts and coffee that I brew at most of the classes.

“There's this committee in your head that has to be silenced by the facts now and then, but the committee will always have a voice and if it doesn't, that's complacency.”

August Hunicke

Beating a dead horse with a push-up stake extension....

By Shawn Ogden

Sometimes it might be difficult to understand why the safety guy always seems to be hung up on the same old safety rules. Four years ago, I was probably asking myself this question. Now that I have been a logging safety advisor for a few years, I can help answer that question for anyone that might be wondering.

For starters, we do it because it is our job. How long would your job last if you didn't do what the boss told you to do? That doesn't mean you can't push back on something that you don't agree with. In fact, a little push back on occasion is good for everyone, as long as you keep it civil. Another reason, and the most important reason, is that we hear about 99% of the accidents that happen. These accidents get filed away in our brains and because it is our job to help prevent accidents, we are always thinking about ways to address these concerns with the loggers so they don't happen again. I know what you are thinking, "it's a dangerous job and accidents are going to happen no matter how safe we are". True, but as long as we are **all** thinking about safety, we can help prevent some of those accidents. In most of the accidents one or two very basic safety rules are ignored or violated. If we can change that behavior we can prevent those things from happening again.

Now, back to beating the dead horse. I was looking through the logging safety newsletter archives online. The oldest newsletter in the digital archives is from 2006. That seems like just yesterday, but it was actually 17 years ago! The 2nd newsletter from that season contains an accident that happened to a truck driver that was turning his stake extensions over. While doing this he slipped off the trailer and severely injured his shoulder. According to the article, this injury may have ended this fellow's career.... I hope it did not end his career and hopefully he has made a full recovery. These types of accidents can be prevented. It's that easy! But you must be willing to make that change. For those of you that are not already using push-up stake extensions, I would ask that you consider it.

I would challenge you the next time you are near a log truck with push up stakes whether he is pushing them up or down. Watch how easy and fast it is to walk around and put them in position from the ground. Now think back to the last time you nearly fell while climbing up on the trailer to turn the extensions over by hand. Count up the costs if you had fallen. How many weeks would you miss work while you healed up? How much would your work comp insurance go up to cover the medical bills? There is a better and faster way but it won't happen until you see it for yourself.

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