

Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes

09/23/21

10:00 AM– 12:00 PM

LBT Conference Room/Charlotte office/WS office/other tele-conference locations

Opened at 10:07 AM

Attendance:

Celeste Hardy, Chuck Murdock, Dennis Berwyn, Wesley Herron, Rose Gray, Deane Mills, Katie Perry, Bob Tipton, Ed Joye, Sheldon Joseph, Kevin O'Barr, Nicole Brown, Sarah Burns, Neesia Hill, Kevin Cosgrove, Eric Smith, Ted Hendrix, Mildred Rivera, Fleda Anderson, Rob Jacobson, Alex Lee, Donald Payne, Peggy Reme, Bruce Miles, Judyth A Forte, Lafayette Atkinson, Frank Castillo, Merville Forrester, Kristie Hall, Tracy Wolfe, Steve Able, Robin Ewart, Denese Ballew

Old Business:

- June minutes review – no comments

New Business:

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/20 – 09/21/21:

- 19 Inspections in Logging
- 15 Inspections in Arboriculture
- 16 Consultative Visits

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- 1 arborist fatality - Oct (Thomasville – 10/21/20)
- 1 arborist fatality – Jan (Lexington – 1/14/21)
- 1 logging fatality – May (Murphy - 5/25/21)

The ProLogger Base Courses are back in action!

1. The Eastern course at Wayne CC with Eric presenting.
2. The Central course at Montgomery CC with Mark and Celeste presenting
3. The Western course at McDowell Tech CC with Gary presenting. Commissioner Dobson attended and presented introductory remarks.

The annual meeting of the Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (SLTC) was held on 07/29/21 at Howell Woods with Eric presenting. Among the topics presented were the concerns with fall hazards for loggers and truckers and Eric informed the committee of the number of fatalities in the industry in NC as compared to the nation. Poor representation from the western part of the state has caused contemplation of a similar SLTC meeting near Lake Logan in November. A venue and date is being negotiated.

Open Discussion:

If anyone would like to be a member of the sub-committee to evaluate and edit/produce our own NC version of an arborist rule/guide, we will accept nominations/volunteers.

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SLTC meeting discussion – Eric was informed that slips, trips, and falls occurred in all associated industries, trucking, logging and sawmills. “Where are the falls occurring?” Courtney Swanson (resource management) indicated the difficulties of getting off and on a loader, to which AJ Keating (chairman) agreed and some of this was due to manufacturing flaws in the equipment. To further expand on equipment issues, Keith Biggs (Forestry Mutual) brought up the challenges with the dozers having their step(s) installed inside the tracks ultimately leading to it being covered in mud and rendered ineffective. General consensus confirmed that “3 point contact” should be reinforced and would help with many falls. Eric also suggested an initiative to reach out to equipment manufacturers and bring some of these issues to their attention. Perhaps they may have equipment retrofit solutions. When asking the question about fall protection, Keith and others claimed that most of the falls were attributed to the equipment and machines, such as chippers being larger in size, drivers exiting machines and log trucks. There are some companies (a handful) using ladders, but no PFAS or such devices are being worn at logging sites. Eric let everyone know that anyone who uses ladders or PFAS need to be properly trained. Also, different fall protection manufacturers can offer fall protection solutions and training. At the end of the presentation, Eric reinforced use of free CSB and ETTA services to help with training assistance.

Celeste spoke about the training that has been done recently through ETTA. We had 24 employees in our internal training for the logging SEP that covered logging, arborists and chainsaws. They have also completed two external training classes for our customers: the shorter version Logging SEP had 21 attendees and the Chainsaw training had 31 customers. ETTA has another chainsaw webinar scheduled for October due to requests and can schedule more training as needed.

Please continue to encourage increased inspections in the SEP.
Continue to offer technical assistance and guidance whenever possible.
Provide referrals to Consultative or Compliance where appropriate.

If you desire additional familiarization (training) with the industry and activities (inspections) associated with them, please let one of our committee members know and we'll schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person where allowed) to assist.

Chuck Murdock announced that he would be retiring next month. We wished him well in his future activities. Chuck endorsed Eric Smith as his replacement on the committee. The Chair deferred the appointment referral to Eric's supervisor. 😊

Any other discussion? None

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 16 December 2021, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations?

Closed at: 11:35 AM

Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes

06/17/21

10:00 AM– 12:00 PM

Tele-conference locations via LifeSize access.

Attendance:

Gary Thorpe, Celeste Hardy, Mildred Rivera, Chris Jasion, Bruce Pearson, Brian Kemppainen, Kevin O'Barr, Paul Sullivan, Kevin Beauregard, Dennis Berwyn, Wesley Herron, Mark Rasdall and Judyth Forte.

Old Business:

- March minutes review – no comments

New Business:

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/20 – 06/17/21:

- 18 Inspections in Logging
- 11 Inspections in Arboriculture
- 10 Consultative Visits

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- 1 arborist fatality - Oct (Thomasville – 10/21/20)
- 1 arborist fatality – Jan (Lexington – 1/14/21)
- 1 logging fatality – May (Murphy - 5/25/21)

The ProLogger Base Courses are back in action!

1. The Eastern course at Wayne CC is on its final day today with Eric presenting.
2. The Central course at Montgomery CC is scheduled for 7/14-15/21 with Mark and Celeste presenting
3. The Western course at McDowell Tech CC is being negotiated. We expect that this one will be the middle of September as usual with Gary presenting. We are hoping to have Commissioner Dobson participate as well.

The annual meeting of the Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (SLTC) is scheduled for 07/29/21 at Howell Woods. Eric has volunteered to attend and present for us.

Among the topics to be presented are the concerns with fall hazards for loggers and truckers and we'll inform the committee of the number of fatalities in the industry in NC as compared to the nation. Gary asked for any other suggested topics.

The annual review of our portion of the Strategic Management Plan found that we're on track and no major changes were recommended. The recommendation was forwarded to management for finalization.

Open Discussion:

If anyone would like to be a member of the sub-committee to evaluate and edit/produce our own NC version of an arborist rule/guide, we will accept nominations/volunteers.

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The Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass EXPO produced by NCFA & CLA originally scheduled for April 30-May 1 has been postponed a second year due to COVID. Keep up with their NC activities at their website: <https://www.ncforestry.org/>

Discussion on requiring log truck drivers to move away from their truck when loading/unloading. FMIC indicates more injuries from mount/dismount actions. There were no known injuries regarding dropped object (logs). Very seldom is a load passed “over” the truck cab. Operations are set up to load from the rear and/or the side of log trailers. However, operators with a knuckle-boom mounted to a stake-bed truck are most likely to violate the prohibition for crossing the cab. In those cases, the loader operator was also most likely to be the driver, so, no exposure in most (not all) cases there as well. We will introduce that as a topic during the SLTC.

Please encourage increased inspections in the SEP.

Continue to offer technical assistance and guidance whenever possible.

Provide referrals to Consultative or Compliance where appropriate.

If you desire additional familiarization (training) with the industry and activities (inspections) associated with them, please let one of our committee members know and we'll schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person where allowed) to assist.

Any other discussion? None presented.

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 16 September 2021, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations.

Close meeting at: 10:35

Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes

03/18/21

10:00 AM– 12:00 PM

Tele-conference locations via LifeSize access. NOTE: This meeting was recorded and is available for viewing through the LifeSize program.

Attendance:

Gary Thorpe, Celeste Hardy, Mark Rasdall, Jerry Midyette, Nicole Brown, Bruce Pearson, Deane Mills, Bob Tipton, Kevin Beauregard, Laura Crawford, Scott Mabry, Judyth Forte, Chris Jasion, Nelson Edwards, Kevin O'Barr, Sheldon Joseph, Scott Justice, Lafayette Atkinson, Chuck Murdock, Andy Sterlen, Mildred Rivera, Jordan Atamaniuk, Eric Smith, Donald Payne, Howard Laurie

Old Business:

- December minutes review – no comments

New Business:

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/20 – 02/17/21:

- 15 Inspections in Logging
- 5 Inspections in Arboriculture
- 4 Consultative Visits

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- One arborist fatality - Oct (Thomasville – 10/21/20)

Gary attended the annual (Jan 27) meeting with the Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (SLTC) and discussed various logging-related topics with the members, including 2020 citation and fatality data comparisons for NC and national; fire suppression system on equipment; logging deck housekeeping; properly equipped FOP on machines; first aid/CPR training; truck accident reporting requirements – roadway/sites/mills/yards; logging is most hazardous occupation in US – NC is a leader in lower reportable fatalities & recordable injuries!

Open Discussion:

Celeste has experience in the Southeastern US in the insurance industry supporting the wood industry aspects such as truck driving, logging, sawmills, etc.. Celeste brings experience with creating guidance and we've recently opened a discussion on the initiation of an arborist guidance and/or rule. Celeste had also reviewed the VA guidance that Chuck had evaluated and presented to our committee. If anyone would like to be a member of this sub-committee, we will accept nominations/volunteers.

Mark Rasdall shared a couple inspection examples where he inspected line clearance and construction companies and describes how he determined that they were performing logging operations. Described a “clean” chip operation out on the logging site. Discussed associated hazards such as greatly increased noise levels, struck by and guarding issues.

Review OPN 88J, OPN 147 and CPL 02-01-045 to evaluate tree felling and/or logging sites. These documents interactively support the inspection process. And... discuss your observations

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03/18/21

with a co-worker or someone else in the department if guidance is not clear or just doesn't seem to fit your situation. Review tree felling operations to determine if the site is "site clearance" or simply arboriculture or logging operations. If they're using logging techniques/equipment look closely. Some construction companies use logging equipment for their site clearance. You may have a 1926 construction inspection as well based on the site activity. If a contracted logging company is clearing the site, it would likely result in a 1910 "logging" inspection. If the construction company is using standard construction equipment (excavators, skid-steers, etc.) to fell/push trees, is the equipment fitted or retrofitted with appropriate ROPS/FOPS protection for this use? (Reference SAE J231, SAE J397 and SAE J1040, among others)

Bob Tipton shared a recent experience with a neighborhood tree trimming operation as well as a personal action which was less than safe and agreed that he had learned the safer method of tree felling, including proper wear of PPE.

The Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass EXPO produced by NCFA & CLA originally scheduled for April 30-May 1 has been postponed a second year due to COVID. Keep up with their NC activities at their website: <https://www.ncforestry.org/> Bruce Pearson and Andy Sterlen discussed their experiences from previous Expos.

ProLogger base courses remain on hold due to COVID. Limitation on the classes are primarily venue-related - community colleges currently restrict attendance to five inside or 10 outside.

- Module 20 classes have partially migrated to online offerings and are effective. Bruce Pearson provided some thoughts on these courses.

Please encourage increased inspections in the SEP.

Continue to offer technical assistance and guidance whenever possible.

Provide referrals to Consultative or Compliance where appropriate.

If you desire additional familiarization (training) with the industry and activities (inspections) associated with them, please let one of our committee members know and we'll schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person where allowed) to assist.

Any other discussion? None presented.

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 17 June 2021, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations.

Close meeting at: 11:05

Logging/Arboriculture SEP Team Meeting Minutes

12/17/20

10:00 AM– 12:00 PM

LBT Conference Room/Charlotte office/WS office/other tele-conference locations

Attendance: Please provide attendance via email to Gary

Gary Thorpe, Roseanne Gray, Jennifer Busick, Jerry Midyette, Scott Lyle, Mildred Rivera, Scott Mabry, Judyth Forte, Danielle Knowland, Brian Kemppainen, Kevin O'Barr, Eric Smith, Denese Ballew, Celeste Hardy, Ted Hendrix, Andy Sterlen, Nicole Brown, Bruce Pearson, Paul Sullivan, Kevin Beauregard

Old Business:

- September minutes review

New Business:

SEP Inspections/surveys from 10/01/20 – 12/17/20:

- 9 Inspections in Logging
- 3 Inspections in Arboriculture
- 21 Consultative Visits for FY 20
- ETTA reported three events with 65 people trained for FY 20

OSH received Fatality Notices:

- One arborist fatality - Oct (Thomasville – 10/21/20) (FY 20)

Open Discussion:

Inspecting CSHOs discussed reported arborist fatalities which resulted in triple ought inspections.

One such fatality was the result of a danger tree collapse. OSH should NOT recommend use of a roping system for guiding a felling. There are too many options that may be taken by applying such a system improperly. A recommendation for mechanical felling of a danger tree is OSH-supportable by referencing the appropriate ANSI standard or, where applicable, the logging standard.

ProLogger base courses remain on hold due to COVID. Mostly due to a lack of suitable venues to support the larger classes. No projections for getting better as yet.

- Module 20 classes have partially migrated to online offerings

Use OPN 88J, OPN 147 and CPL 02-01-045 to evaluate tree felling and/or logging sites. These documents interactively support the inspection process. And... discuss your observations with a co-worker or someone else in the department if guidance is not clear or just doesn't seem to fit your situation. Take note that we routinely contact recognized experts (loggers or arborists) for assistance in understanding intricacies of their industry.

Review tree felling operations to determine if the site is “construction site clearance” or actual arboriculture or logging operations. If using logging techniques/equipment look closely. Some construction companies use logging equipment for their site clearance. Partially due to safety and efficiency and partially due to cost reductions from hiring a contractor. This can also lead to

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12/17/20

a multi-employer worksite determination. You may have a 1926 construction inspection as well based on the site activity. If a sub-contracted logging company is clearing the site, it would likely result in a 1910 “logging” inspection. If the construction company is using standard construction equipment (excavators, skid-steers, etc.) to fell/push trees, is the equipment fitted or retrofitted with appropriate ROPS/FOPS protection for this use? (Reference SAE J231, SAE J397 and SAE J1040, among others)

Please encourage increased inspections in the SEP.

Continue to offer technical assistance and guidance whenever possible.

Provide referrals to Consultative or Compliance where appropriate.

Any other discussion? None

Schedule next SEP Meeting – 18 March 2021, 10:00 AM at various teleconference locations.

Close meeting at: 10:50