



# Mission, Resources, and Proposed Collaborative Project

**AOL Safety Conference  
November 2014  
Eugene, OR**

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**| Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences**

# Agenda

- **What is OR-FACE**
  - **Mission**
- **Safety communication**
  - **Exercise**
- **AOL and OR-FACE collaboration**

**Oregon Fatality Assessment & Control Evaluation**

- **NIOSH surveillance research program**
  - Began in 1982
  - Expanded to states in 1992
- **OR-FACE**
  - Joined 14 other state programs in 2002
  - 2003 - 76 fatalities

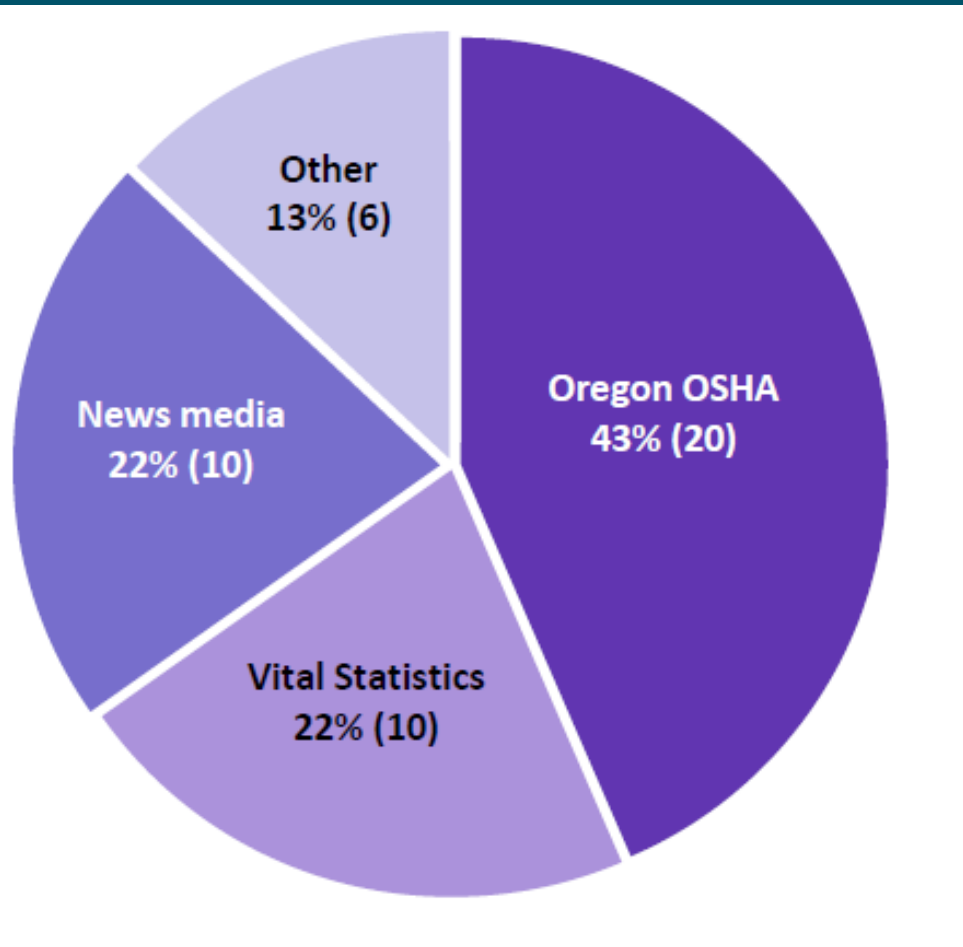
# OR-FACE Mission

- **Prevent occupational fatalities through**
  - **Surveillance**
  - **Targeted investigation,**
  - **Assessment**
  - **Outreach**

# Surveillance

Police reports  
Coast Guard  
CFOI  
FAA

Google alerts

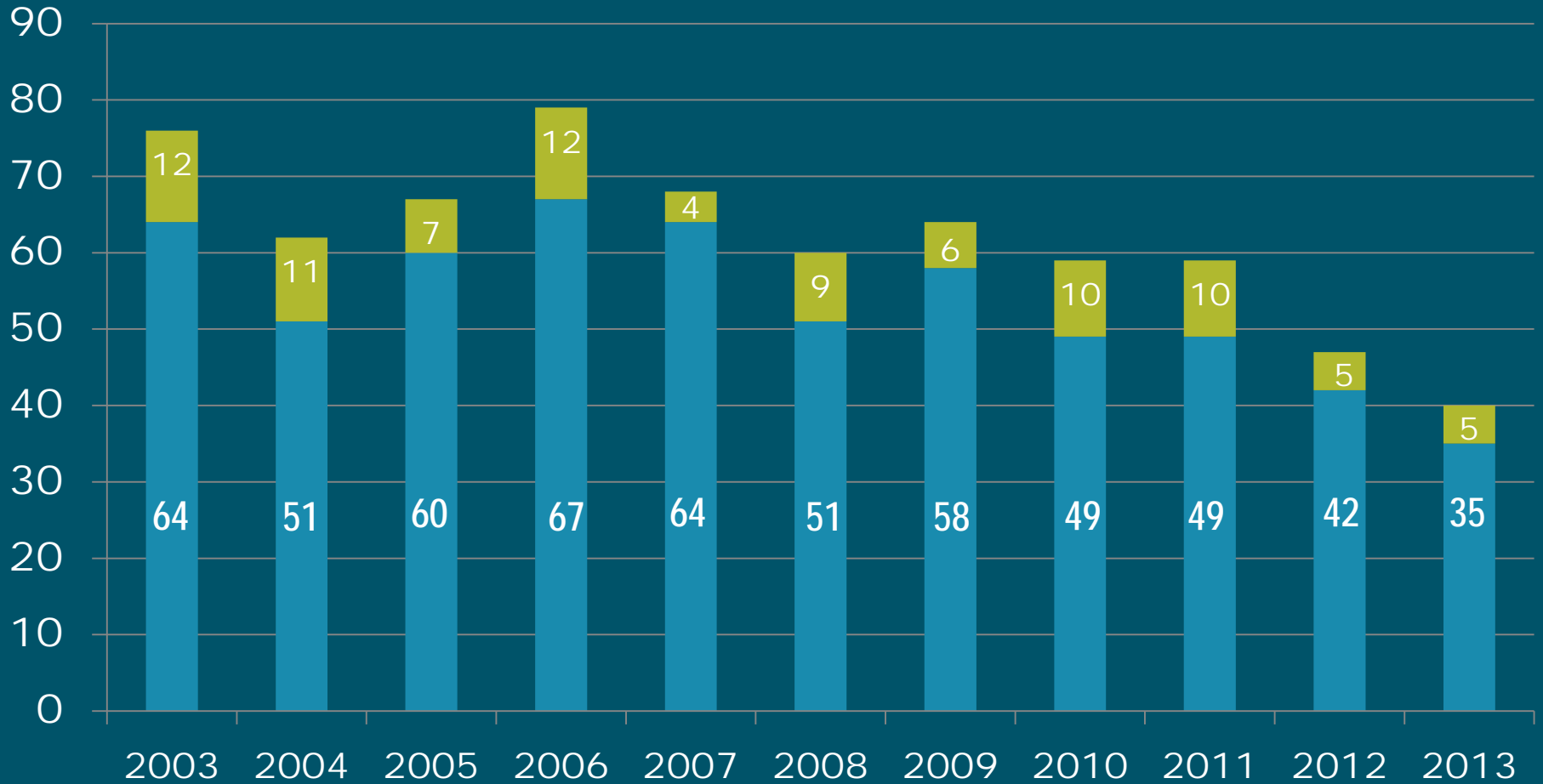


Death certificates  
Medical examiner



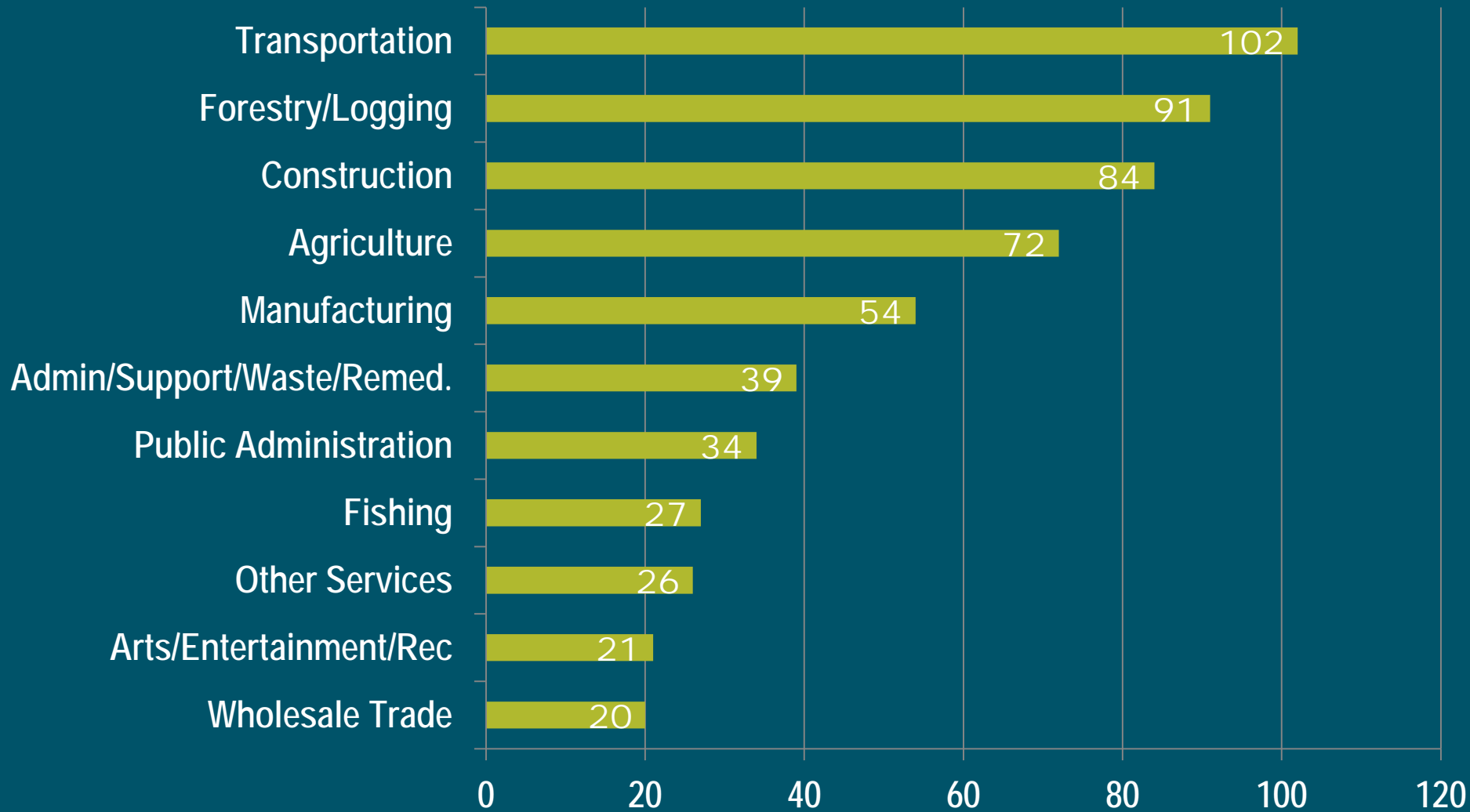
# OR-FACE Cases

■ All other   ■ Forestry/logging



# Worker fatalities in Oregon (2003-2013)

## Top 10 industries in total number





# Outreach

- **Website**
- **Publications**
- **Interventions**
- **Presentations**

- OR-FACE**
- Investigation Reports
  - Publications
  - Incident Maps
  - Incident Abstracts
  - Links
  - Priorities
  - Contact Us
  - Archived News and Updates

Search OR-FACE

- QUICK LINKS**
- Administration
  - Cores & Shared Resources
  - Funding
  - Research Expertise
  - Research Calendar

**Receive OR-FACE Publications!**

**Give Us Feedback**



## Oregon FACE

The Oregon Occupational Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (OR-FACE) Program is a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) sponsored program designed to prevent occupational fatalities through surveillance, targeted investigation, assessment, and outreach associated with traumatic work-related deaths in Oregon.

### NEWS AND UPDATES

#### September 2014:

During 2000-2009 70% of commercial fishing deaths off the US West coast were caused by drowning. Dungeness crab fisheries had the highest number of fatalities. Falls overboard accounted for 24% of all fatalities. None of the victim of falls overboard were wearing personal flotation device.

A Crab fishing hazard alert was published with safety tips and fatal stories of three Oregon commercial fishermen.

Four more toolbox talk guides were added to the website:

- (1) Load of lumber shifts and falls on construction worker
- (2) Truck driver crushed between semi-trailer and loading dock
- (3) Mechanic killed by excavator bucket
- (4) Excavation worker killed by flying rigging when hook fails.



**July 2014:** OR-FACE published Fatality Investigation Report OR 2013-27-1, "Collapsed roof trusses kill carpenter foreman."

**June 2014:** OR-FACE published three Toolbox Talk guides based on occupational fatalities in logging: Logger Killed Under Rigging When Carriage Drops, Timber Faller Killed While Working Under a Hung Tree Limb, and Logger Killed by Falling Sheave When Yarder Tower Collapses. The OR-FACE website highlights the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction and provides a direct link to resources.

**April 2014:** OR-FACE published an investigation report,

### FEATURED INVESTIGATION REPORT

Collapsed roof trusses kill carpenter foreman (published July 2014)

### OR-FACE ANNUAL REPORTS

2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009

2008 | 2007 | 2006

2005 | 2004 | 2003

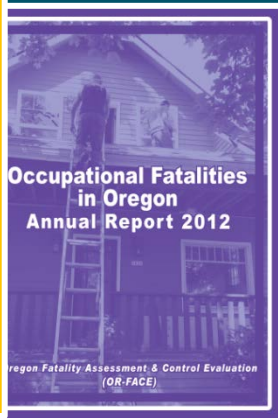
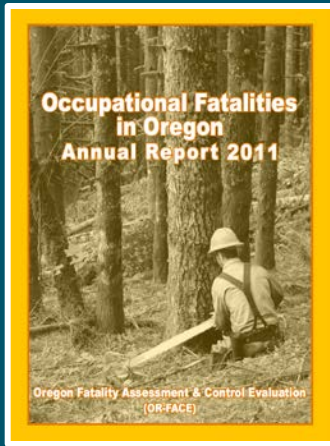
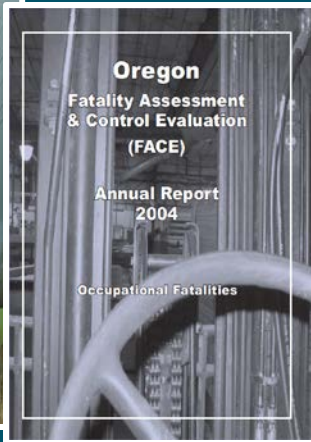
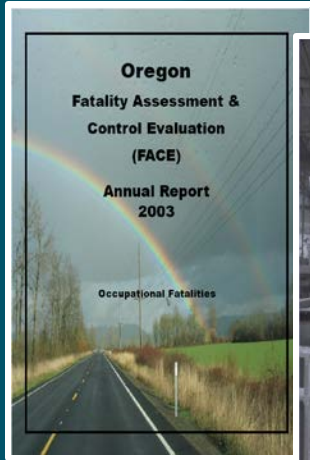
All links above are PDFs. To ensure accurate fatality surveillance, each Annual Report is closed out and published approximately 18 months after the end of a study year. The projected release date for the 2013 Annual Report is July 2015.

### CONSTRUCTION FATALITY VIDEOS

The Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) created three short videos, each based NIOSH FACE construction fatality reports.



## Annual Reports



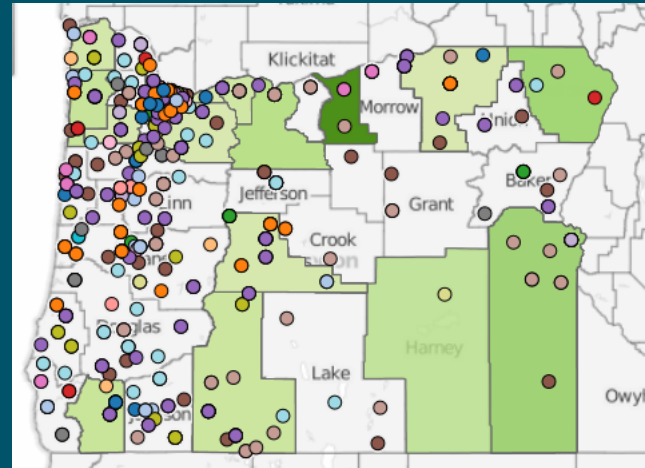
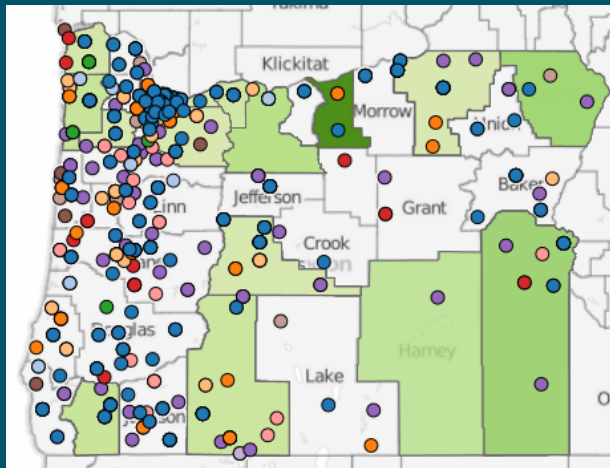
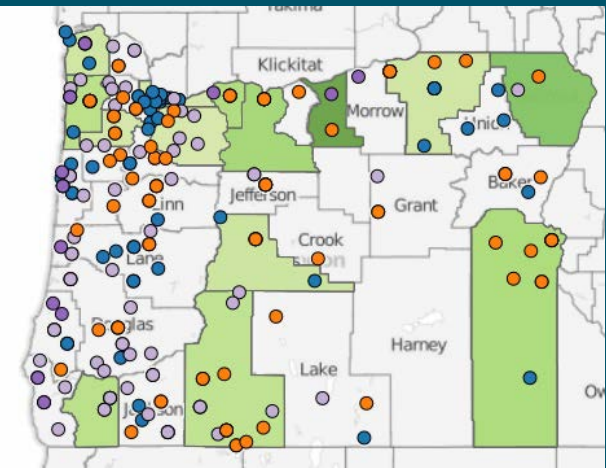
- **Published 18 months**
- **Abstract of cases**
  - **Based on report review**
    - **OSHA investigation**
    - **Police investigation**
    - **Medical examiner**
      - **Pathology**
      - **Toxicology**
    - **National Transportation Safety Board**
    - **US Coast Guard**

## Interactive Maps (2003-2012)

### Industry

### Event

### Occupation



- Industry**
- Agriculture
  - Fishing
  - Forestry/Logging
  - Transportation

- Event**
- Contact
  - Contact with Object
  - Exposure
  - Fall
  - Fire/Explosion
  - Overexertion
  - Transportation (Air)
  - Transportation (M...)
  - Transportation (M...)
  - Transportation (Rail)
  - Transportation (W...)
  - Violence
  - Bodily Reaction/O...

- Occupation**
- Architect/Engineer
  - Arts/Design/Sport...
  - Building/Grounds...
  - Business/Finance
  - Comm/Social Serv...
  - Community/Social...
  - Computer/Math
  - Construction
  - Education/Training
  - Extraction
  - Farm/Ranch
  - Fishing
  - Food Prep & Related
  - Healthcare Practi...
  - Install/Maintain/Re...
  - Legal
  - Life/Physical/Soci...
  - Logging
  - Management
  - Material Moving
  - Material/Moving
  - Military
  - Mining
  - Office/Admin Sup...
  - Personal Care/Se...
  - Production
  - Protective Services
  - Sales & Related
  - Transportation

## Hazard Alerts

- Multi-page one incident
- One page
- Bulleted recommendations
- Abstract of similar cases



**Fatality Alert**  
November 2003



**OR - FACE**  
**Snag Hazard Alert**

*From 2010 to 2013, 10 Oregon workers in the Logging and Forestry industries died after being struck by trees. Hung limbs and snags in trees are a recurring contributing factor to occupational fatalities among tree fallers in Oregon.*



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**Crab Fishing Hazard**

During 2000-2009 70% of commercial fishing deaths off the US West Coast were caused by drowning. Dungeness crab fishermen had the highest number of fatalities with a rate of 210 per 100,000 full time equivalent workers. Fatality research accounted for 20% of all fatalities. None of the victims of falls overboard were wearing personal flotation devices.

**PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING SAFETY TIPS:**

- Wear personal flotation device whenever on deck crossed
- Train crew on man-overboard procedures and practices
- Use the most current weather forecasts and bar
- Use personal locator beacons that are water active
- Get vessel stability evaluations to aid in loading
- Utilize Coast Guard vessel inspections

**Fatal Stories**

**Case 1:** The 43-year-old crab boat captain reported that the vessel he was operating capsized but was pushed up on the shore. Two crew members (44 and 55 years-old respectively) died after being swept overboard. None of the crew wore life jackets or personal flotation devices, nor was there time to do so when the vessel tilted. They were attempting to cross the bar in rough seas. The victims were part of a three-person crew that was preparing for the opening of crab season. When the boat was attempting to cross the bar, waves were estimated at 14 to 16 feet. As it tried to sail it got adrift to the breakers. One crew member was pushed up and the boat was turned completely over.

**Case 2:** A 48-year-old crab boat captain was killed when the vessel he was operating capsized. The vessel was pushed up, being over at three-point.

**Case 3:** The 43-year-old crab boat captain reported that the vessel he was operating capsized but was pushed up on the shore. Two crew members (44 and 55 years-old respectively) died after being swept overboard. None of the crew wore life jackets or personal flotation devices, nor was there time to do so when the vessel tilted. They were attempting to cross the bar in rough seas. The victims were part of a three-person crew that was preparing for the opening of crab season. When the boat was attempting to cross the bar, waves were estimated at 14 to 16 feet. As it tried to sail it got adrift to the breakers. One crew member was pushed up and the boat was turned completely over.

**Case 4:** A 41-year-old logger was killed after he was struck in the back by a falling tree. The victim was working as a part of a two person logging crew, cutting alder trees on private logging land. In twenty-minute intervals, each worker would turn off their saw to listen for their partner's saw. The victim's partner performed this safety check, but did not hear his partner's saw. He went to check on the victim and found him face down with a 12-inch diameter and 34-foot long treetop across his back. Apparently, when the victim cut down his last tree, it collided with a nearby tree, which caused the top of that nearby tree to break apart and fall over onto the victim. The victim was conscious when his partner found him, but died on his way to the hospital. He died from head and chest trauma.

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**PLEASE POST**

Oregon Fatality Assessment and Control Eval  
[www.ohsu.edu/facets/assessmentandcontrol.html](http://www.ohsu.edu/facets/assessmentandcontrol.html)

**Fatal Stories**

**Case 1:** A 28-year-old self-employed tree cutter was killed after he was struck by a dislodged treetop and crushed between previously felled logs and underbrush. The victim had cut a small second growth tree, but it had hung up in another tree as it fell. He was attempting to fall another larger tree when the lodged tree broke free and fell on him.

**Case 2:** A 51-year-old logger was killed after he was struck by a falling snag that was caught in the tree he was cutting. He was working on a steep hillside, and his partner was 250-300 yards away. His partner searched for the victim after he had not heard the victim's saw in 40 minutes. He found the victim dead with a tree on top of him. The victim had 25 years of logging experience.

**Case 3:** A 48-year-old tree faller was killed after a snagged tree fell on top of him. The victim was working as an independent contractor cutting trees. He had just felled a large tree on a hillside, which uprooted a rotten tree on its way down. The rotten tree hit the victim from behind and pinned him underneath. He was working alone at the time of the incident. The victim died at the scene from crushing injuries.

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**PLEASE POST**

Oregon Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation  
503-494-2281 [www.ohsu.edu/croet/face](http://www.ohsu.edu/croet/face)



# Safety Communication

***“You know safety, but admit it....you don’t know communication”***

**– Dr. TJ Larkin & Sandar Larkin**

## **Study**

- 4 separate companies**
- 8 frontline supervisors**
- 24 total pieces of safety communication**

# Safety Communication

- **Safety communication in refineries is at 16<sup>th</sup> grade level (4% of US population can understand)**
- **Technical communicators recommend**
  - **5th-7<sup>th</sup> grade level**
  - **Optimizes percent who can understand**



# Safety Communication

## Recommendations

- **Use pictures**
  - **Increase comprehension (often by 100%)**
  - **Several pictures if subject is complex**

## Hanging Like This May Kill Him

Surviving the fall is not the only danger  
Hanging in the harness is dangerous too

Hanging like this, it takes about...  
5 minutes to go unconscious  
Less than 30 minutes to die

Get him down quickly  
He's not OK



If he's conscious tell him  
to keep moving his legs

Legs are the problem:  
Blood pools into his legs  
If his legs don't move, blood stays there  
Heart can't pump blood to his head  
First, he faints  
Then, he dies

When he's down...  
**Don't Do This**



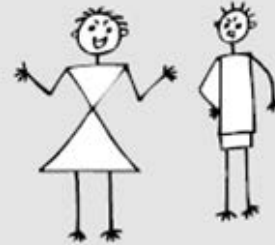
His legs are full of too much "blue" blood.  
If all that blood, with no oxygen in it,  
suddenly pours into this heart, it could kill  
him.

When he's down...  
**Sit or Kneel**



Don't lay him flat.  
Keep him propped up in a sitting position.  
No lying down for at least 20 minutes.  
Give his heart time to adjust.

Here is what it takes to improve your safety communication by more than 100%:



This much artistic talent.



scanner

“Few things in communication research are know with certainty, here is one of them:  
Adding crude drawing to text brings huge increases in comprehension.”

# Safety Communication

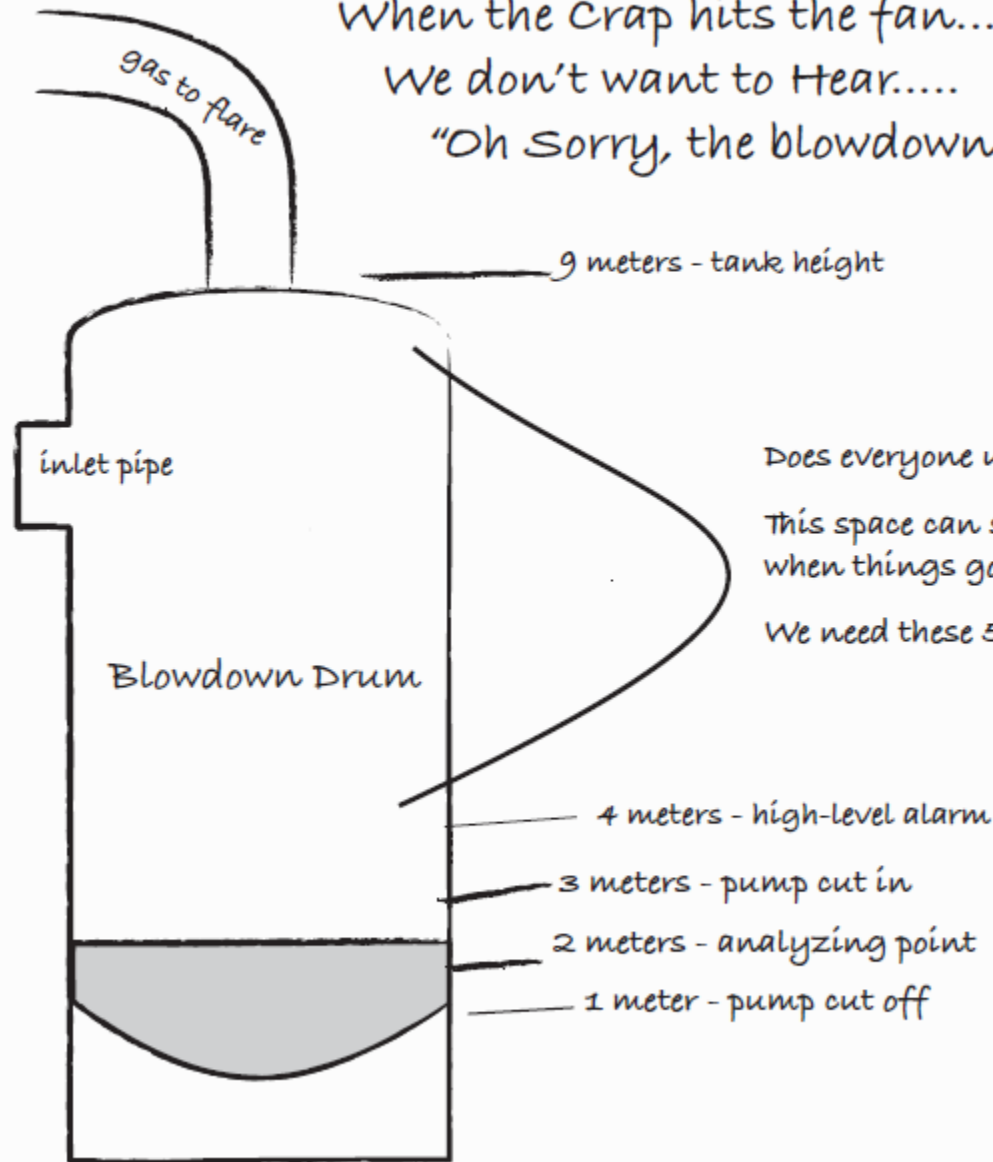
## Recommendations

- **Use simple text**
  - Never more than one page
  - Lots of white space
- **Communicate as if you were human**

When the Crap hits the fan....

We don't want to Hear....

"Oh Sorry, the blowdown drum is full."



Does everyone understand?

This space can save our neck  
when things go wrong.

We need these 5 m. empty.

# Exercise

- **Form teams**
  - **Some members do a stick drawing**
  - **Some members write text to explain**

## Exercise

**A 41-year-old logger was killed after he was struck in the back by a falling tree. The victim was working as part of a two person logging crew, cutting alder trees on private logging land. In twenty-minute intervals, each worker would turn off their saw to listen for their partner's saw. The victim's partner performed this safety check, but did not hear his partner's saw. He went to check on the victim and found him face down with a 12-inch diameter and 34-foot long treetop across his back. Apparently, when the victim cut down his last tree, it collided with a nearby tree, which caused the top of that nearby tree to break apart and fall over onto the victim. The victim was conscious when his partner found him, but died on his way to the hospital. He died from head and chest trauma**

# Safety Communication

## Recommendations continued

- **Communication channel**
  - Paper best for comprehension
  - Face-to-face best for change



# Toolbox Talk Guides

scripted story  
for supervisors to read

Bold high urgency alert word  
on colored background

**Toolbox Talk Guide** [ohsu.edu/croet/face](https://www.ohsu.edu/croet/face)  
**Logger Killed by Falling Sheave When Yarder Tower Collapses**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Hold the guide with the side facing you and the other side facing your crew. Then read the story.

Our safety talk today is about a 42-year-old logger who was killed after being struck in the head by a falling sheave. The logger was standing in the landing zone when one guyline slipped off its anchor stump, and a second guyline slipped off when its anchor stump came out of the ground. This caused the tower of a yarder to collapse and strike the boom of the delimeter. There was a cable pulley system attached to the delimeter, and the impact of the delimeter's collapsed tower caused a sheave to fall off the boom and strike the victim in the head. He died of acute head trauma.



Simple line drawings increase understanding by 113%

**So here are some ways we can prevent something like this from happening where we work:**

- Plan the landing site for yarding requirements beforehand to ensure that you maintain sufficient safe distance.
- Make sure to check that anchor stumps are at the correct height to secure the guylines and the guylines will not interfere with decking the logs at the landing.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for setting up guylines.
- Have a competent person check guyline anchors daily, before and during operation.
- Make sure that there is deflection in the skyline to reduce stress on the yarder tower.

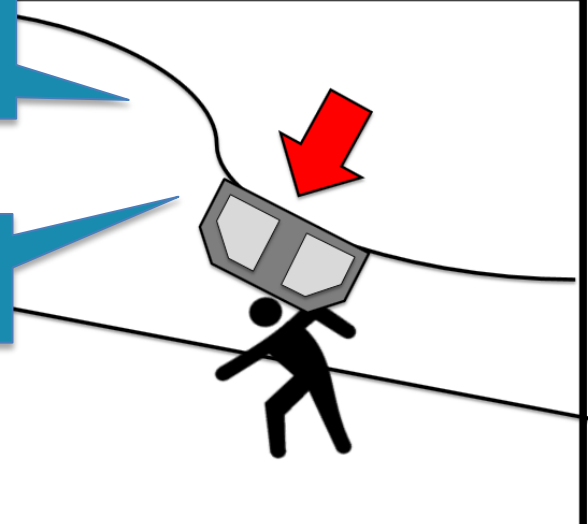
**ASK:** "Does anyone have more ideas or comments to share?"  
Pause for discussion. Then see if there are ways to take action.

**END WITH ACTION PLAN (ideas for what to ask or say).**

- "Have we checked the guyline anchors today? Are the anchor stumps the correct height?"
- "Does anyone know the manufacturer's recommendations for setting up guylines?"
- "What do you all do to set-up the landing site for yarding?"
- Discuss a similar situation at your current site.
- Express your commitment to train people on how to plan the landing site for yarding and the manufacturer's recommendations for setting up guylines.
- Commit to follow-up at the next safety talk.

Hazards clearly identified in drawing

**FATAL HAZARD**

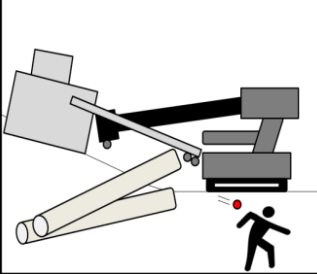


Preventive actions bullet pointed

- **Make sure that machine anchors are rigged correctly**
- **Remove rigging hang-ups**
- **Stay clear of rigging**

## Published

**FATAL HAZARD** ⚠



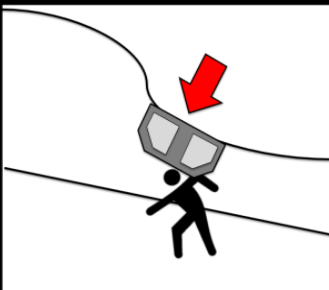
- Follow manufacturer's set-up directions
- Check security of stumps and guylines daily
- Make sure guylines share equal loads
- Use proper deflection in skyline

**FATAL HAZARD** ⚠



- Check for hung or snagged trees
- Communicate the hazard
- Get help to remove the hazard
- Work with your partner to use an adjacent tree to eliminate the hazard

**FATAL HAZARD** ⚠



- Make sure that machine anchors are rigged correctly
- Remove rigging hang-ups
- Stay clear of rigging

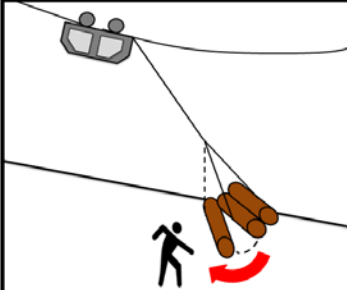
## Draft

**FATAL HAZARD** ⚠



- Never ride as a passenger on a machine unless it is designed for passengers
- Develop formal training for mobile machinery operators

**FATAL HAZARD** ⚠



- Get in the clear before any lines are moved
- Follow-up on training and supervision for safe practices, even with experienced workers

**FATAL HAZARD** ⚠



- On hillsides, stay alert for loose objects
- Make sure the landing area is large enough to keep logs from rolling or sliding back
- Make sure workers at landing site and crew on ground communicate

# Proposed Collaboration

- **Mobile system to promote and evaluate**
  - toolbox talks
  - hazard alerts
- **Format – what would be best**
  - Voice (story)
  - Email
  - Picture



# Questions?