

# RADIO CALLING

## FOREST ROAD PROCEDURE #QRUC-2

### Quesnel Road Users Committee

[Quesnel Natural Resource District road safety information – Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://www.gov.bc.ca)

**These procedures apply to all forest roads within the Quesnel Forest District.**

**Remember, roads are radio assisted not radio controlled. Drive accordingly.**

**DRIVE DEFENSIVELY – EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED**

#### Known Hazards

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Losing track of your location            | 5. Unnecessary radio chatter  |
| 2. Losing track of other vehicles location  | 6. Using the wrong frequency  |
| 3. Meeting oncoming vehicle without a radio | 7. “Walking over” other calls |
| 4. Not following calling procedures         | 8. Being distracted           |

- “Up” is defined as increasing km numbers; “Down” is defined as decreasing km numbers.
- Due to radio overlap, always identify the road name, in addition to kilometre (i.e. “Up Garner 39”)
- Logging Trucks call “Up” or “Down” followed by the kilometre position (i.e. “Down, 241”)
- All maintenance equipment and wide loads must identify themselves; wide lowbed, plowtruck, grader, etc, (i.e. “plowtruck Down 15-59”, “grader Up 122”).
- On two-way hauls, loaded logging trucks traveling in the “Up” directions should identify themselves as such (i.e. “Up” with a load - 246”). Road use specific levels for calling should be established by the safety coordinator.
- General calling protocol:
  - Down vehicles call odd kms and Up vehicles call even kms (the busyness of the road will dictate how often to call),
  - Maintenance equipment or wide loads must call every km in both up and down.
  - Light vehicles may call less frequently. All vehicles must call every km as they approach other oncoming vehicles within 3 kms.
  - Increase call frequency in poor visibility conditions.
- Mandatory Call** situations for both “Up” and “Down” vehicles are:
  - At posted “Must Call” signs.
  - When entering a secondary road from a mainline road or visa versa, it is recommended to pull over at the start of the road, switch frequencies if required and ask if there is any oncoming traffic near, call your location, direction and proceed. Vehicles must always be within sight of the frequency change location prior to switching radio to new frequency.
    - Whenever you are stopping and parking on the road, and again when you resume.
    - Whenever you encounter a vehicle traveling without a radio, notify other road users of its location, direction and brief description.
- Convoy calling:
  - The lead vehicle is responsible for calling for all vehicles in the convoy.
  - The lead vehicle should announce the number within the convoy.
  - It is the responsibility of the vehicle joining or leaving the convoy to inform and to receive confirmation from the lead vehicle.
  - Convoys can be no more than 1 km long (avoid convoys in poor visibility conditions).
  - It is preferable to have a radio equipped vehicle at the head, and rear of any convoy.
  - A vehicle more than 1 km behind the lead vehicle is no longer part of that convoy and must call their own position.
- Never pass any vehicle without notifying them on the radio and receiving the “OK”. Communication should include location specifics and other details, to avoid other users mis-interpreting the direction to pass.
- Avoid distractions while monitoring the road channel;
  - No unnecessary radio chatter.
  - Avoid noise distractions i.e. AM/FM radios, phones, music players, passengers
  - Stay on designated road channel at all times while traveling
  - Do not use any radio scanners while travelling.

**Follow the “3 C’s”:    Courtesy                      Common Sense                      Concentration**

Participating committee members:

