

Remote Worker Evacuation Sites

The purpose of the Remote Workers Evacuation Site program is to provide emergency agencies and forestry field workers with a set of known district wide reference points and clearly marked locations to facilitate emergency services.

This program concept for the Quesnel area was generated by the West Fraser Logging Safety Committee, with particular contribution by Earth First Logging, EJ Sales Logging and Troll Resort/Canis Lupus Logging. The Loggers Safety Committee and WFM organized a sub committee including other licensees, contractors, BC Ambulance, RCMP, WorkSafeBC, Ministry of Forests and Range, BC Timber Sales, Highland Helicopters, Ministry of Transportation and HMC. Their intent was to evaluate the means and methods for rapidly transporting injured workers in remote areas.

The group chose to add Remote Worker Evacuation Staging Sites. These are well marked sites for an ETV (Emergency Transport Vehicle)/MTC (Mobile Treatment Center) or pickup arriving from remote area, to rendezvous with an ambulance or a helicopter.

Evacuation sign information:

- 43 strategically placed orange Q signs which each have a unique identifier referenced to a master map.
- Each sign is located either at a road junction or a wide area to help accommodate helicopter evacuation.

The signs are now up and the maps and detailed access notes are available for remote workers. The RCMP and BC Ambulance will be supplied with the map and will know how to get to these areas should an emergency be called in.

Implementation takes places July 16, 2008.

The Quesnel Road Users Committee (QRUC) consisting of the government and industry members will continue this safety program together.

Industry and government agencies will have copies of the program for their workers and contractors.

For further information:

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dqu/Quesnel%20Road%20Users%20Committee.htm>