
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Forests and Range

FOREST OFFICIALS CONDUCT COMPLIANCE SPOT-CHECKS

VICTORIA – Ministry of Forests and Range officials inspected more than 1,000 logging trucks in September as part of a provincewide crackdown aimed at preventing timber theft and ensuring compliance with regulations, Minister Rich Coleman announced today.

“These surprise inspections show that most operators are meeting the terms of B.C.’s timber transport rules,” said Coleman. “While compliance is generally good, the inspections serve to remind operators about their requirements, and allow officials to take action to deal with cases of non-compliance.”

About 80 per cent of trucks inspected complied with timber marking and transportation requirements. Most contraventions were minor and resulted in verbal warnings, for example, in cases where manifests were not completed properly.

Trucks were stopped at over 150 locations during September, including Forest Service roads and highway checkpoints. At many locations, the ministry’s compliance and enforcement officers were joined by the RCMP and safety inspectors from the Ministry of Transportation. Overall, forest officials issued 52 warning tickets and 18 violation tickets and seized about four cubic metres of cedar.

“Ministry of Forests and Range officials conduct more than 16,000 inspections a year to assess compliance with forestry laws,” said Coleman. “We are enforcing forest management laws to protect the environment and combat forest crimes such as theft, arson and mischief.”

If you have any information about a forestry contravention or crime, call your local Ministry of Forests and Range office, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (callers may remain anonymous).

-30-

Note: Photos and compliance statistics for road check sites are available on request.

Media Max Cleeveley
contact: Communications Director
 Ministry of Forests and Range
 250 387-8486

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