

SOUTHEAST CENTER

FOR AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND INJURY PREVENTION



TIMBER-SAFE GOALS

- ➔ REDUCE WEST VIRGINIA LOGGING HAZARDS
- ➔ IMPLEMENT A LOGGING OPERATIONS SAFETY & HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
- ➔ INCREASE SAFETY OF LOGGING OPERATIONS AND REDUCE INJURIES



Higher Risk Due to Prevalance of Manual Felling



TIMBER-SAFE Project



THE RISKS to WEST VIRGINIA LOGGERS

- Logging is one of the most dangerous occupations in the United States
- U.S. Loggers' fatality rate is more than **20X** the national average for all workers BLS.gov, 2017
- In 2014, logging fatalities increased 31%
- Use of manual felling in WV results in higher rates of worker compensation claims
- 51% of loggers report injuries in their lifetime
- Novel interventions needed for younger at-risk loggers
- Loggers aged 15-24 had significant injury reduction
- From 2011 through 2016 loggers in West Virginia had 2.93 times the risk of an injury-related fatality compared to loggers who worked in any other state

The Power of Partnerships for Logger Safety: TIMBERSAFE Partners

- WVU Extension Service, Safety & Health Extension
Mark Fullen (PI) – (m.fullen@mail.wvu.edu)
- WVU School of Public Health
Douglas Myers (co-PI)
- WVU School of Public Health
Wayne Lundstrom (co-investigator)
- WVU Extension Service, Safety & Health Extension/
WVU School of Public Health
Kimberly Rauscher – (co-investigator)
- Multiple Timber Companies Throughout the State