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## Weathering the Winter

**DEPENDING ON WHERE YOU LIVE, WINTER IN BC CAN MEAN SNOW AND ICE OR ENDLESS RAIN.** Practising forestry in either of these conditions presents its own set of challenges. In this issue, we look at how winter conditions affect construction and safety.

First, we look at stump shearing, a road construction technique that can only be implemented in -25 to -30 C weather. Stump shearing leaves the tree roots in the soil during road construction causing less forest floor disturbance. Then we review techniques used to make artificial snow. For winters where the snow doesn't come early enough, artificial snow can help build winter roads and snow-fill crossings.

The other aspect of winter we address is this issue is safety. On cold winter days when the sun sets in late afternoon, it's important to keep safety uppermost in your mind. Our first safety article talks about staying safe and dry while cruising on BC's coast. The second article looks at what to do after things go wrong. How do you look after yourself when you're hurt and it's getting dark?

Beyond the Viewpoints section, we have two great interest articles this issue. Stirling Angus, RPF, writes about restoring access to Meager Creek Valley after the landslide on September 19, 2009 and Domenico Iannidinardo, MBA, RPF, RPBio, PEng, writes about the challenges and satisfactions that come with practising on private land. Both articles show forest professionals doing what they love and embracing the challenges in their work.

As we start this new year, the editorial board looks forward to bringing you another six issues of **BC Forest Professional** and we hope that everyone can find something useful in each issue. 🐾