



INDUSTRY SAFETY ALERT

HOE-FORWARDING INCIDENT

Incident Date: Feb 27, 2020
Incident Type: Close Call



Location: Coastal Woodlands
Job Position: Hoe-forwarding Operator



Summary:

Madill 3800C was forwarding second growth logs downhill on 15% slope. Tracks were on a trail made of tops of logs and debris (puncheon). Boom was forward and down when the puncheon started to collapse. The back of tracks started to slide sideways, and the front of the left track came against a stump. Operator was unable to straighten the machine and it fell over, cab side down. Operator was wearing his seat belt and exited via rear door. Twenty mm of precipitation in the past 24hrs.

Key Learnings and Recommendations:

- Majority of hoe-forwarding incidents have occurred on relatively flat ground. Operators must not be complacent.
- Trails must support the machine and load with no large gaps or air/snow pockets.
- Soft/wet ground and other hazards must be tested before proceeding.
- Supervisors must regularly inspect/observe Machine Operators to ensure a good plan is in place and Operators are following safe work procedures.
- All Escape Hatches must be checked every shift to confirm easy egress with no obstructions.
- Review your past safety alerts and anchor the right safety practices in your business...Do not have repeats!

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