

# SAFETY ALERT

## Serious Near Miss

January 13, 2015

### Hazard

- 12' logs were decked on ~25% slope due to the limited decking space available in the cutblock.
- The low side of the log deck was supported only using compacted snow as fill.
- Warmer weather conditions altered the stability of the snow underneath the log deck.

### Incident Summary

- A Supervisor and Processor Operator just finished a log quality sample and were standing on the road next to a deck of 12' logs.
- One of the logs on the deck shifted causing the entire deck to collapse and slide down the hill despite having appeared to be stable just moments earlier.
- Luckily no one was in the "line of fire".



### Preventative Actions

- Operators must consider the slope of the ground and the height of the decking area before actually building the deck.
- Position logs perpendicular to the lower side of the log deck as supportive cribbing – do not only use snow.
- Consider leaving high stumps along roadside decking areas in order to support the logs being used to level out log decks.
- In extreme cases, consider building a trail to provide a flatter and more stable location for the log deck and working equipment.
- Always forward/skid logs to a more suitable location if they cannot be decked safely.



**SAFETY COMES FIRST**

...and it starts with the person you see in the mirror.

