



SAFETY MEMO

To: All Woodlands Employees, Forestry
Consultants, Harvesting Contractors,
Silviculture Contractors, Canfor Woodland
Safety Representatives.

Date: November 14, 2006

Copy To:

From: PG Woodlands Safety Committee

Location: CAC office

Subject: **SAFETY HAZARD ALERT**

File:

SAFETY HAZARD ALERT

On October 27, 2006, a Woodlands Employee conducting cutblock layout suffered a serious medical treatment as a result of a slip and fall in the woods. At the time of the incident there was approximately 10cm of new wet snow on the ground. Employee was walking over some blowdown in the forest and ended up losing his balance resulting in the employee falling forward. Employee hit a 10 cm branch stub when he fell forward. The 10 cm branch stub hit employee in the lower right part of the lip. Employee was taken to hospital and required 10 stitches to close the puncture that resulted from falling on the branch stub.

After further investigation, it was found that the employee did have the appropriate protective footwear on. Employee had just purchased new caulk boots so caulks on his boots were sharp. Employee indicated that he wasn't rushing. Employee said he quickly assessed the hazard and said he didn't feel that there was any risk in stepping on this piece of blowdown.

The following recommendations have been made in an effort to prevent similar slips, trips and falls in the forest:

1. Employees should make every effort to step over blowdown rather than directly onto the blowdown. Proper procedure is to walk over or around the blowdown wherever possible.
2. In situations where you must step onto the blowdown, ensure your footing is secure before taking the next step. Be on the look out for wet slippery logs, or old rotten logs that may cause you to slip, trip or fall.
3. All employees need to continue to focus on identifying hazardous situations that may affect your footing in the bush (wet slippery conditions, blowdown, heavy brush areas, suspended logs, etc). Be extremely careful, slow down and take the safest possible route through the bush.
4. Check your caulk boots often, a supply of new caulks and wrench are available in the office for changing.

Please review with all field employees the recommendations from this incident.

Prince George Woodlands Safety Committee