Date: August 23, 2015

Rock Strikes Eye

Location: Near Port McNeill, BC.

Summary: While building a road an excavator operator was struck in the eye by a rock that shot through an open front window.

Hazard: Open windows and doors pose a hazard to machine operators as falling, flying, or intruding objects can enter the cab unexpectedly.

Actions to Prevent a Re-Occurrence:

- Windows and doors must be closed when actively working. Exceptions may include equipment mobilization or short duration precision-work such as bridge and wood box culvert construction. However, prior to commencing these activities a risk assessment must be completed to ensure operator safety.
- Fix broken air conditioners so operators are not tempted to open a window or door that was meant to protect them.
- If working with an open crawler tractor, do not put machine in a situation where material can enter the cab.

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