



INDUSTRY

# SAFETY ALERT

## Walking in the woods: Keep it injury-free!

### August 2023 – Southern Interior Region

**Details:** While locating a fireguard line an experienced forester slipped while walking through an older plantation and fractured an ankle.

The terrain was gentle but was on the north shaded side of a steep slope.

The weather was sunny and dry but heavy dew overnight had not dried, thus creating slippery conditions in the area.

**Learnings & Suggestions:** Be cognitive of the conditions in which you are walking and pay extra attention when there is a higher possibility of the ground being wet/slippery. It might be dry during the day, but the morning can have dew.

- Use RADAR as a tool to assess your surroundings and changes in worksite conditions
- Use a walking stick as an aid and caulk boots if necessary
- Whenever working alone carry reliable two way communication.

*This information shared by Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd, Westbank*

### Additional Resources: BCFSC Slips, Trips and Falls Injury Prevention Webinar

This [recorded webinar](#) covers strategies for managing slips, trips and falls injuries. Material includes the mechanics of gait, effective pre-season preparation, ergonomics, simple field-based observations and coaching techniques for reducing front-line worker slips, trips and falls.

*The 1½ hour webinar was presented by Dave Coates of ErgoRisk Management Group.*



BC Forest Safety

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