



INDUSTRY

# SAFETY ALERT

## Boulder in log bundle discovered during unloading

**Date:** July 2024

**Location:** Okanagan

**Details:** During unloading at a mill, a boulder was discovered inside a bundle of logs being removed from the truck. It went unnoticed during the loading process, as the loader operator grabbed the bundle with the rock hidden from view on the back side.

The truck ended up at the mill before the rock was noticed by log yard staff while unloading the logs. The truck driver had previously walked around his truck and inspected the load, but the rock was not visible from his view point.

There was minimal potential for the rock to fall off the load on the trip from the block to the mill (since it was bundled inside the load), but there was more severe potential for damage to the truck / trailer, loading / unloading equipment, or workers involved in loading / unloading aspects.



### Learnings / Suggestions:

- While this was one rock on one load, it demonstrates the level of care and attention that is needed with all loads at the cut block.
- Loader operator's visual inspection of the load is critical as the truck driver cannot see what is on top of or inside of the load.
- Loader operators should rotate the grapple to inspect both sides of each bundle.
- Include rotating grapple in safe work procedures when a foreign object is suspected to be in grapple.

*This information voluntarily submitted – to share a safety alert click [here](#)*



BC Forest Safety

Unit 8C - 2220 Bowen Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9S 1H9  
Toll Free: 1.877.741.1060 | [bcforestsafe.org](http://bcforestsafe.org)