

# SAFETY ALERT

## Medical Treatment

MAY 23, 2017

## Potential Hazards

- Elevated risk due to the following factors:
  - Working in an isolated area far from the nearest hospital.
  - Walking in high blowdown area with logs & slash that were wet.
  - Planter wasn't aware of the injury until later in the day during a break back at the pickup truck.

## Preventative Actions

- Reviewed alternate planting techniques with the planting crews, such as:
  - Go around fallen logs & slash, rather than over it.
  - Take advantage of planting minimums by planting right up to obstacles and around them.
  - Never jump of blowdown; climb off instead while always maintaining 3-point contact.
  - Avoid high slash areas, especially in wet and rainy conditions.
  - Take lighter "bag-ups" in high slash areas to reduce the weight being carried that would impact balance.
  - Always assess ground & footwear before starting work for the day; caulked boots must be worn in wet and/or slushy conditions.
  - Always refuse unsafe work.

## Incident Summary

- A tree planter was attempting to hit their target density by planting a tree in a high blowdown area.
- The tree planter misjudged their footing and slipped despite discussing the dangers of walking in slash during the morning tailgate meeting.
- The tree planter slipped from a log onto another and punctured the posterior side of their thigh; the wound was approximately 2cm wide & 1 cm deep and required stitches to close.



**SAFETY COMES FIRST**

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

