

# SAFETY ALERT

## Working Alone over Water

**Date of Incident:** January 21, 2019

**Location:** Coastal Woodlands

**Incident Type:** Close Call

**Job Position:** Boomcrew



### Summary:

Close Call when dark and an experienced Boom-man fell off log and into the water.

- Worker had sharp caulks but logs were covered in ice.
- While falling he jumped towards a log bundle and was able to grab the end of a log and pull himself out of the water.
- Worker was not wearing Keyhole style or Auto inflate PFD.

### Key Learnings and Recommendations:

- With water temperature 4 to 10 degrees Celsius (40 to 50 F) loss of dexterity can occur in approximately 5 minutes.
- If dark, boom workers must not work alone when and where others would be unable to render immediate assistance.
- If working alone over water, by Regulation Workers must wear,
  - Keyhole style or Auto inflate PFD.
  - High Viz shirts/jackets.
- There must be a documented (by person doing the check) check in procedure for working alone.
- Man Over Board Safety Alerts which immediately send alarm to adjacent boat/land camp are available. For example search [Alert 418 Man Overboard Alarm System](#)

**For more information on this Alert, please contact:**

Gary Bauer, Safety Coordinator  
Gary.Bauer@Interfor.com

