CONTRACTOR SAFETY ALERT



C Forest Products Commission

Incident reporting

Number: 56 Issued: 11/01/2022

Background

On the 21st December 2021, an FPC Officer whilst undertaking a site inspection in a pine operation identified a feller buncher which had incurred damage to its Margard righthand side screen, resulting in a hole approximately 250mm by 100mm.

The machine was stood down immediately until repairs could be made.

The incident occurred when a guard on the feller buncher head struck the screen, as the operator was placing the grab of trees on the ground, and the machine rocked forward. Fortunately, there were no injuries.

Key Points

- The incident occurred 4 days prior to the site inspection and was not reported through the contractors or the FPC's correct reporting channels.
- The operator continued to use the machine even though the machine's protective structure was compromised.
- All incidents occurring on an FPC worksite "MUST" be reported within 24hrs to the FPC via the FPC1089 Contractor Hazard/Incident Event Notification form or using the company's notification form. "Refer FPC Contractor Procedure – E1 Incident Management & FPC Contractor Procedure 01 – Safety requirements."
- Contractors, "MUST" ensure they have robust internal incident reporting systems inclusive of the reporting for machine repairs and maintenance, that all employees understand these systems and comply accordingly. The contractor is exploring engineering solutions to mitigate the risk of reoccurrence.
- Safety is the highest priority; everyone is responsible for their own safety as well as the safety of others. If you see an unsafe act or work condition speak up.

