

FATAL

Industry: Logging Age: 28 Experience: A Few Years Area: Vancouver Island

Do not overload rigging

A large, heavy turn of four logs was being pulled at almost a right angle to the skyline. Under the pressure of the weight and the awkward angle of the pull, the chokers began to break. One log ripped apart with a chunk of the log flying over 200 ft. (61 m), striking and fatally injuring a hooktender. The hooktender was in the open on the opposite side of the skyline road.

Prevention alert:

- Employers must train and supervise rigging crews on safe work procedures for all types of skyline operations.
- Supervisors must ensure that the rigging can safely handle the size and weight of the turn.
- Workers must take a safe position where they can see the turn and where they are not exposed to logs, log chunks, or other material that may be moved by the rigging or turn.

