

LOGGING/FORESTRY SAFETY SERIES

MOUNTING SAFELY

Photo credit: Cornelis F. de Hoop, PhD

Incident Summary:

A logging crew arrived at their site early in the morning on May 11th. It had rained the night before and the ground was muddy. Joe was operating the feller-buncher to clear out smaller trees. After lunch, Joe started to climb back into the tractor and slipped on the foot step which was covered in slick mud. He was not holding onto the machine when he slipped. Joe tried to catch himself, but he fell to the ground and broke his ankle. Joe was taken to the hospital and missed three days of work.

Discussion Questions:

1. What contributed to Joe's fall?
2. Could the fall have been prevented?
3. What is the three point contact rule?
4. Have you ever fallen during mounting and dismounting? If so, what were the consequences of your fall? (e.g., injury, medical bills, time off work)

Take Home Message:

Using the three point contact rule can prevent injury and lost work time.

