



Alert! Line Shifts & Rope Bight



- A recent incident has resulted in a lost time injury and a worker losing part of his middle finger.

- This incident has highlighted a work activity that takes place on a regular basis and may be getting overlooked for risk assessment.

The incident occurred during a routine line shift when a worker attempted to release the tail rope which had snagged on a stump. After stopping the rope and getting slack he went in to throw the rope over the stump. He saw that there was slack in the rope from the stump to the hauler but couldn't see that down the hill the rope still had weight on it over the gully. He gave the rope a yank holding the tail rope each side of the stump, the movement caused the rope to move quickly dragging his hand around the stump crushing his middle and ring fingers.



- **DO NOT RUSH IN TO UNSNAG A ROPE WITHOUT STOPPING TO PROPERLY ASSESS THE SITUATION**

- Complete a thorough Risk Assessment.
- Never assume, look for any part of the rope that may still be suspended or under tension, slacken ropes further if necessary.
- Ask for another pair of eyes and/or hands if you need to.

10 minutes spent here could prevent a painful accident!