

Base and Tail Hold Machines Can Create Hazards on Haul Roads

Base machines and mechanical tail holds can leave holes in the road from digging buckets in or pushing dirt with blades. Turning tracked equipment can also create ruts or disturbed areas.

The damaged road surface can create hazards for motor vehicles.

A recent close call occurred when a hole left from a base machine in a haul road was not filled in sufficiently. The hole in the road from the bucket was soft. When a log truck drove over it, the front tire sank. If the truck had been traveling faster, the result could have been more serious, such as a roll-over.



Digging in buckets can create holes in haul roads.



Turning tracked equipment can leave ruts in road.

Recommendations

- Fill and compact holes left in the road. This may require bringing in rock if roads are too saturated.
- Smooth the road out if it has rutting or damage from turning equipment.

Requirements

WAC 296-54-531:

(2) Truck road surfaces must meet the following requirements:

(b) Hazards such as broken planking, deep holes, large rocks, logs, etc., that make equipment operation unsafe, must be immediately corrected.

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