

U.S. Department of Labor

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Springfield Area Office
1441 Main Street, Room 550
Springfield, Massachusetts 01103



April 27, 2022

Mr. Paul Maloney
Jiminy Peak Mountain
Resort LLC
37 Corey Road
Hancock, MA 01237

RE: OSHA Inspection #1570976

Dear Mr. Maloney,

Section 21 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act authorizes OSHA to train employers and employees about workplace hazards and appropriate abatement methods. During a safety inspection of your workplace at 37 Corey Rd, Hancock, MA on 01/04/2022, some conditions were observed which, although not in violation of the standards, are considered significant enough to be brought to your attention with the intent of encouraging your efforts to reduce exposure or eliminate it completely.

OSHA's observations are summarized below:

On or about January 04, 2022 employees were exposed to back over and struck-by and crushing hazards while working in the vicinity of active snow grooming machinery operations. Grooming machinery has limited visibility during backing operations and poses hazards to other persons in the vicinity of the snow groomer's immediate danger zone and special protection measures are recommended by the equipment's manufacturer when the snow groomer is backing up and operated in areas where the operator does not have a clear view of the surrounding terrain, or the nature of the terrain is such that the machine may not be immediately visible to people in its vicinity.

Since no OSHA standard applies and it is not considered appropriate at this time to invoke Section 5(a)(1), the general duty clause of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, no citation will be issued for these hazards.

In the interest of workplace safety and health, I recommend that you voluntarily take the necessary steps to materially reduce or eliminate your workers exposure to the condition listed above, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Ensure that employees operating snow grooming machinery verify through positive means (camera/radio/other technology) that no employees are in or anywhere near the immediate danger area behind the machine during backing operations.

2. During Snow grooming operations, restrict access to active grooming areas by all non-essential employees by signage/barricade, and or radio communication on a shared radio channel.
3. Ensure that prior to each use of snow grooming machinery the audible back up warning alarm is functioning properly to give advance warning to anyone in the danger and nearby areas that the machine is about to reverse direction.
4. Ensure special protective measures are taken if the snow groomer is used in areas where the driver does not have a clear view of the surrounding terrain. (Horn, radio communication, barricaded & danger signed areas.)
5. Ensure that employees are specifically trained in and follow the safety warnings in the snow grooming equipment's Safety Instructions on the danger zones for persons such as those found in the PistenBully 600Polar Operating manual, page 17/158 entitled Safety Instructions and specifically, the section titled, Danger Zone for Persons.
6. Investigate the feasibility of installing a rear-view back-up camera system in snow grooming machinery and/or require the driver to establish positive contact, via existing radios, with any other employees who are working or traveling in close proximity to active snow grooming operations.

These methods are not meant to be the only ones available or feasible. OSHA makes available an on-site consultation service which may identify other measures, or you may consider hiring outside consultants. The consultants may be contacted at:

MA Department of Labor Standards
On-Site Consultation Program
Wall Experiment Station
37 Shattuck Street
Lawrence, MA 01843
978-242-1351

OSHA requests a report of your efforts to reduce the above mentioned exposures and the results of your efforts.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Hoye Digitally signed by
Mary E. Hoye

Mary E Hoye
Area Director