

# MNMM Fatal 2007-15

- Powered Haulage Accident
- July 18, 2007 (Nebraska)
- Sand & Gravel Operation
- Loader Operator
- 42 years old
- 19 years experience

# Overview

The victim was fatally injured when the front-end loader he was operating fell into a dredge pond. He had been using the loader to set an 80-foot section of dredge pipe into the water when the shoreline sloughed into the dredge pond.



# Root Cause

The procedures failed to adequately address the risks associated with work performed near the dredge pond. Mining methods did not ensure that the stability of material could be maintained where persons worked or traveled near the dredge pond. The weight of the loader and dredge pipe exceeded the bank's ability to support it.



# Best Practices

- Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage, SLAM each task to identify all potential hazards. Initiate action to protect yourself when performing every task.
- Evaluate the stability of the ground prior to operating equipment near any drop off or edge.

# Best Practices

- Use equipment (excavator) that can perform the work from a safe distance away from the edge of a pond where the stability of the ground may be unknown.
- Require that flotation devices be worn by persons performing work where there is a danger of falling in the water.