

## Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On July 13, 2021, a rock falling from a pillar in a benched area at a room-and-pillar zinc mine struck a miner. The miner was in a personnel lift basket near ground level to load blasting supplies. The rock fell from a height of approximately 40 feet, striking the basket.



### Best Practices

- **Support or remove loose material** from a safe position before beginning work.
- **Design, install, and maintain the ground support** to control the ground where people work or travel, after blasting, and as ground conditions warrant.
- **Use scaling equipment** capable of maintaining safe ground conditions suitable for the mining dimensions.
- **Establish safe work procedures** to ensure a safe work location for miners conducting scaling operations. Train all miners to recognize hazards and understand these procedures.
- **Perform thorough workplace examinations** where miners work or travel.
- **Be alert for changing conditions**, especially after activities that could cause back/roof disturbance.

This is the 18<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in 2021, and the second classified as “Fall of Face/Rib/Highwall.”

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The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data only and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

**Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553**

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