

is customary to fall all timber for each set ahead of the machine.

These skidders are run out to the setting point under their own power. On arrival at the place where the machine is to work, the brakes are set and the guy lines are run out and choked around a stump or tree. The slack of the guy lines is taken up with the engine on the skidder and held with the steel ratchet and dog. The outhaul cables, in case of mechanical outhaul machine, are run out with the setting lines through snatch blocks placed in proper position to cover the skidding trail, and attached to the skidding line with swivel connections to prevent twisting up of the cable.

Winding in the outhaul cable carries the skidding line out to the logs at a speed of 1,000 feet or more per minute. Two or more logs may be hooked on with chokers and they are brought in at a speed of 500 or more feet per minute.

The logs are turned parallel with the track by a separate decking or slewing line while the skidding line is going back for the next haul without causing

any delay to the skidding operation, which greatly expedites and reduces the cost of loading.

When all logs have been skidded and decked at one setting, the outhaul and skidding lines are disconnected and wound up on their respective drums, and the guy lines are detached. The propelling clutch is then thrown in and the machine moved on to the next setting.

The setting lines are run ahead and outhaul blocks placed in the next setting while skidding the previous setting, so that everything is ready to attach the guys, connect the skidding and outhaul lines, and start pulling in logs.

After the logs on one spur have been skidded to the track, the skidder moves out to another spur and the loader goes in to load out the skidded logs.

On account of the skidder being moved so easily and quickly it can be set so that all logs are skidded in at practically right angles to the track and therefore skidded the shortest possible distance. This materially reduces the skidding cost.

