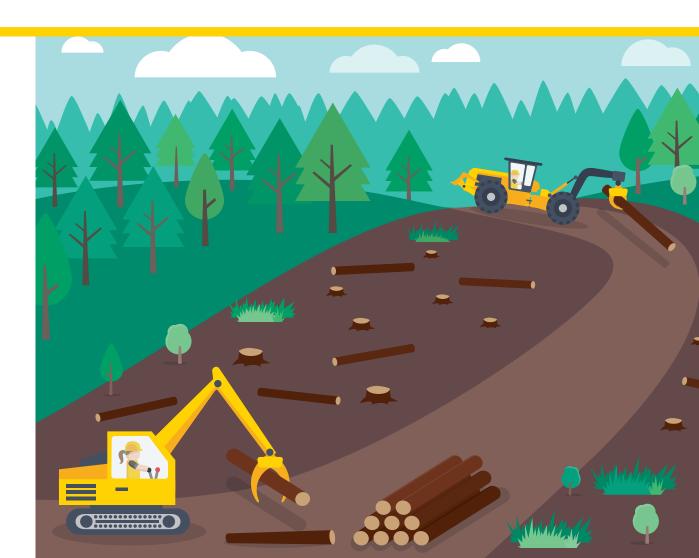


# Machines on slopes

- Plan the work well
- Machine operators must be fit to do the job
- Continue to assess risks as you work





# Machines on slopes

As forestry becomes more mechanised the risks change. Machines on slopes are now a major factor in forestry incidents.

#### Plan the work well – do this before you start

- Walk the work area use the harvest plan information and technology (eg, slope maps or LIDAR maps) to identify high-risk areas.
- Assess the slope for steepness, soil conditions and anything else that could cause a hazard – develop a plan to manage those risks.
- Make sure the machines being used are suitable for working on slopes use them only within the manufacturer's guidelines.

#### Machine operators must be fit to do the job

- All operators must be trained to use the machine they are operating, and have the skills to do the job.
- They must also be fit for work able to concentrate, with work planned so they have time to rest, eat and drink.
- Be aware of mental fatigue from needing to concentrate for a long time.

### Continue to assess risks as you work

- Keep assessing and updating information about the slope conditions. Has rain made the ground slippery or unstable? Could stumps, soft spots or holes make the machine unstable?
- Communicate any new risks to the crew document the risks and controls.
- Always wear your seat belt even if you're doing a quick job.

TREAT THE SLOPE WITH RESPECT – Stop work if you need to re-assess the terrain or if anything else means you can't concentrate properly. Use your your machine only within its limits on slopes (eg, don't over-reach or try to pick too much up).