

**TO: All Harvesting Contractors and their workers**

**Date 1<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Re: SAFETY ALERT – Felling without adequate signage displayed.**

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A worker came to work on a Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and started mechanically felling within two tree lengths of a road without adequate falling signage displayed.

Worker had checked on the Friday before (26<sup>th</sup> August 2022) when leaving and falling signage was displayed but sometime during the weekend the signage was taken down by an unknown source without the crew's knowledge.

Signage was not checked on the Monday morning thus leading to the incident.

Felling without adequate signage displayed is a breach of NZFM's procedure and Industry Approved Code of Practice for Forestry Operations.

NZFM had a discussion with the effected worker and foreman and the following recommendations were suggested:

- Ensure the crew talk about required signage at the toolbox meeting. This will prompt appropriate workers to check required signage is displayed.
- Insert a prompt on the Daily Tailgate meeting book and Fell book.
- Display a sticker in the cab of falling machines to prompt the operator to check appropriate signage is being displayed.

Please discuss this Safety Alert at your next Health & Safety meeting.

If you have any questions regarding this Safety Alert please contact your Supervisor in the first instance.