

1 JANUARY 2023 – 31 MARCH 2023

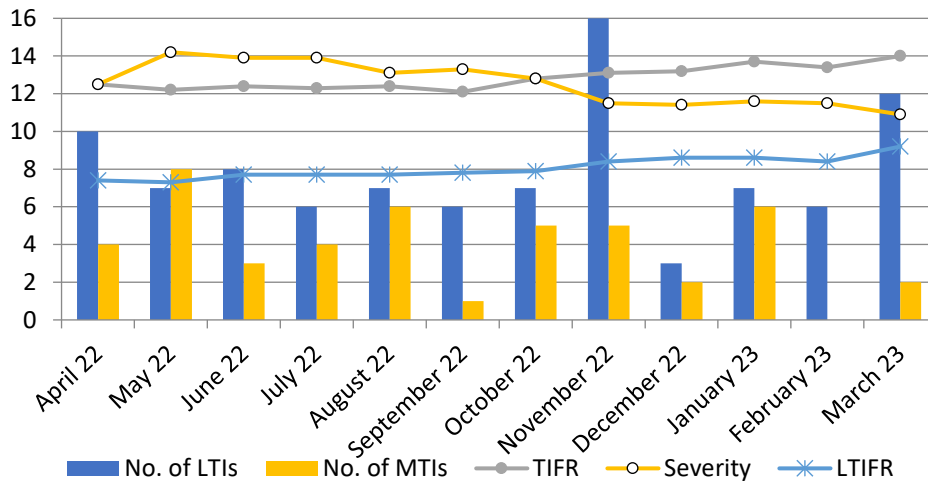


Figure 1. Trends in Lost Time Injuries (LTIs), Medical Treatment Injuries (MTIs), Total Incident Frequency Rate (TIFR), Severity and Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR)

November 2022 exhibited a peak of 16 lost time injuries followed by a steep drop in December 2022 to 3 lost time injuries. However lost time injury numbers climbed again to a peak of 12 in March 2023. As in previous quarters, medical treatment injuries have fluctuated widely. The total incident frequency rate (TIFR) has risen since September 2022. Severity (average days lost per lost time injury) has shown a steady decreasing trend to March 2023 after a long-term trend of increasing to May 2022. The lost time injury frequency rate (lost time injuries per million hours worked) has continued to climb from a low in May 2022.

CRITICAL RISK AREA ANALYSIS

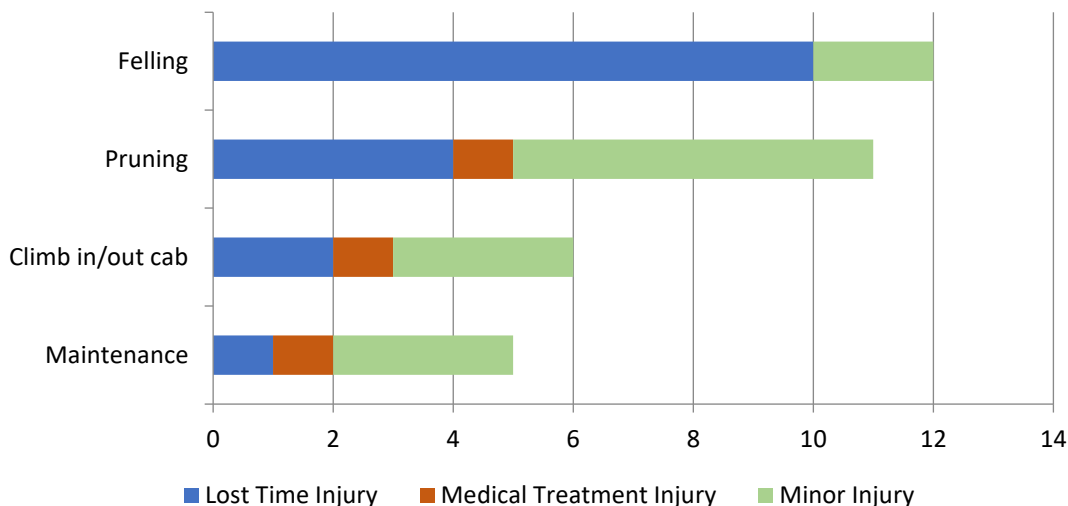


Figure 2. Critical Risk Area Summary

The critical risk area with the highest number of injury incidents was felling with 10 lost time injuries and one minor injury. Nine of the lost time injuries were in thinning operations. There were three reports of thinners slipping over on steep terrain and either falling on their saw (two reports) and getting cut or straining their forearm. Two reports were of thinners being hit by falling branches and regen resulting in severe lacerations and a concussion. One thinner was hit in the eye by a small piece of wood flicked up by the saw. There were two reports of strains – elbow and lower back due to the heavy nature of the work.

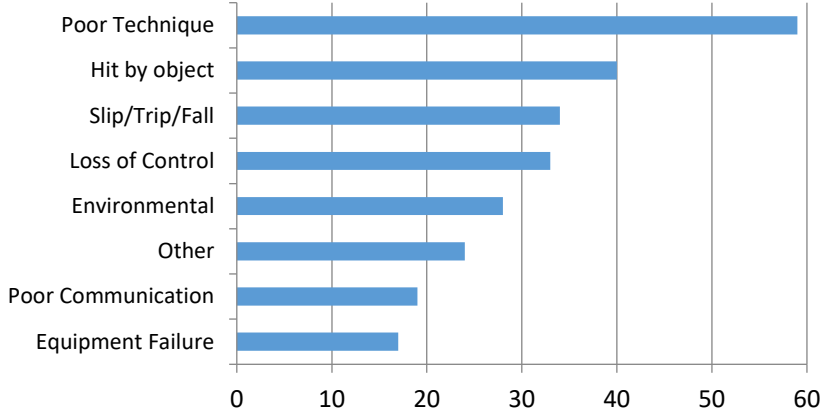


Figure 3. Recorded Incident Cause

'Poor Technique' was the most reported cause of incidents for the sixth quarter in a row with 59 reports. Poor technique incidents were reported in 27 harvesting, 25 log transport, 4 forest engineering and 2 silviculture operations.

'Hit by Object' events (40) occurred most frequently in harvesting & silviculture operations with 16 reports each followed by 5 in trucking. In harvesting most were logs, trees or branches hitting machines causing property damage but no injury. In silviculture there were 6 injury reports reflecting less mechanisation in silviculture.

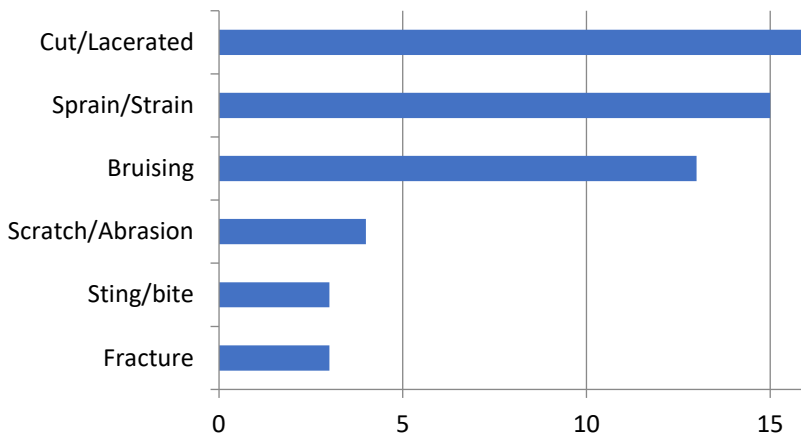


Figure 4. Recorded Injury Type

There were 16 'Cut/Lacerated' injuries. Six of the incidents were caused by contact with a chainsaw and five of those were the result of slipping and falling onto the chain. Five events were sustained during silvicultural activities, such as thinning and pruning. The most serious injury was the result of a falling branch to the face whilst felling trees. This resulted 160 hours off work.

Eight of the 15 'Strain/Sprain' injuries were the result of a slip, trip, or fall, as were nine of the 'Bruised' incidents.

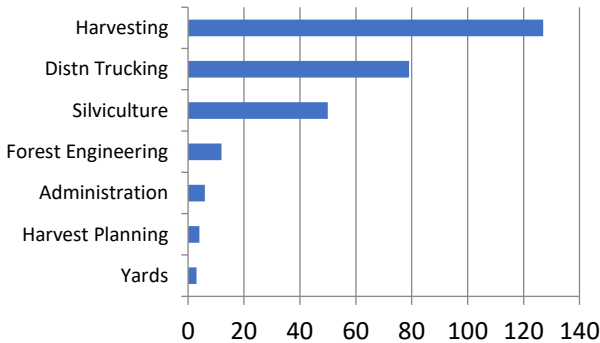


Figure 5. Total Incidents by Operation

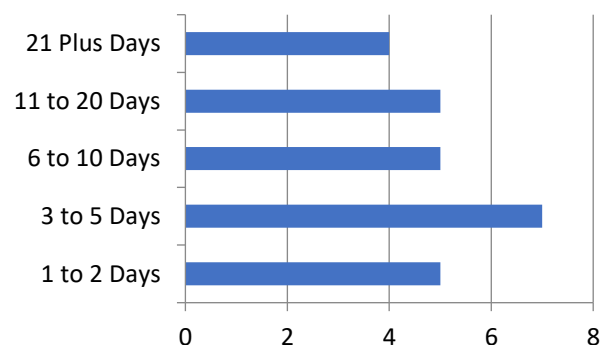


Figure 6. Severity - Lost Time Days

Most incidents occurred during harvesting operations with 127 reported, 38 more than the previous Quarter. Hauler and mechanised clearfell operations had the greatest numbers of incidents with 64 and 4, respectively. Within these operations, mechanised felling and processing were the tasks with the most reports (30).

The average number of days lost per injury was 11, which is one more since the last quarter. The most serious injury occurred during maintenance when a worker was sharpening the chain on a felling head and the disc on the grinder broke injuring his face resulting in 500 hours lost time and ongoing treatment.

PRUNING INJURIES

During pruning there were four recorded lost time injuries and all were in ladder pruning:

Worker slipped over and landed on bottom – 189 hours lost time

Used ladder to push down gorse for access, stepped on ladder and gorse flicked him in eye – 40 hours lost

Strained chest trying to cut big branch with loppers – 16 hours lost time

Fell off the top of his ladder and hit knee on a log – 9 hours lost

NEAR HIT ANALYSIS

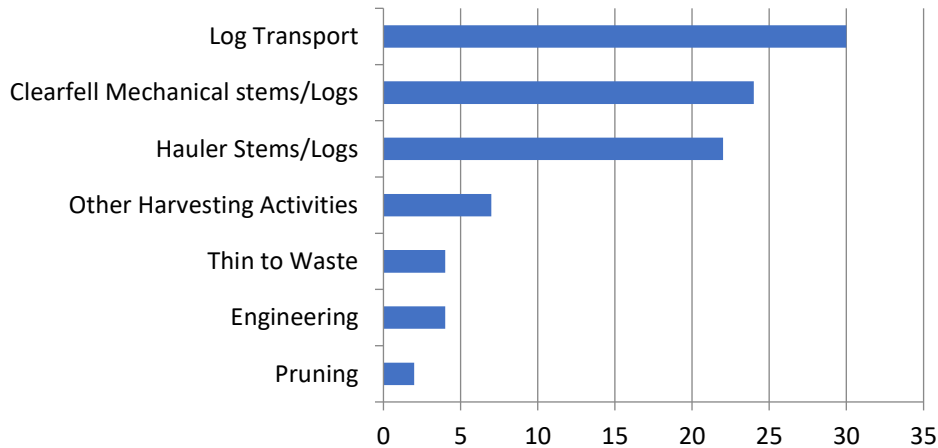


Figure 7. Near Hits by Operation

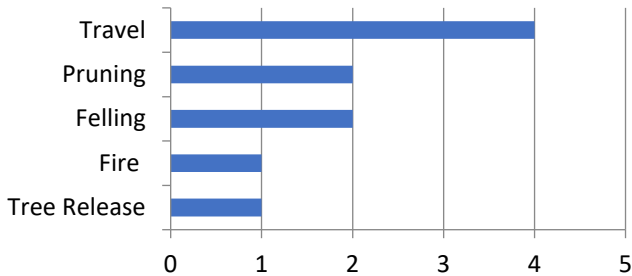


Figure 8. Silviculture Near Hits by Operation

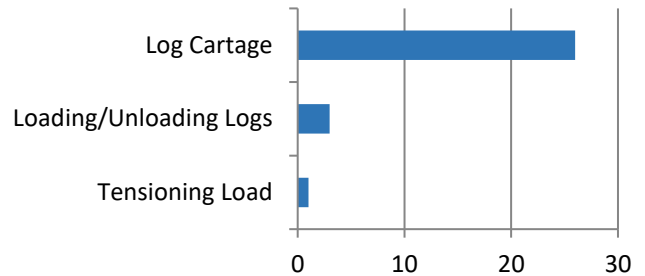


Figure 9. Log Transport Near Hits

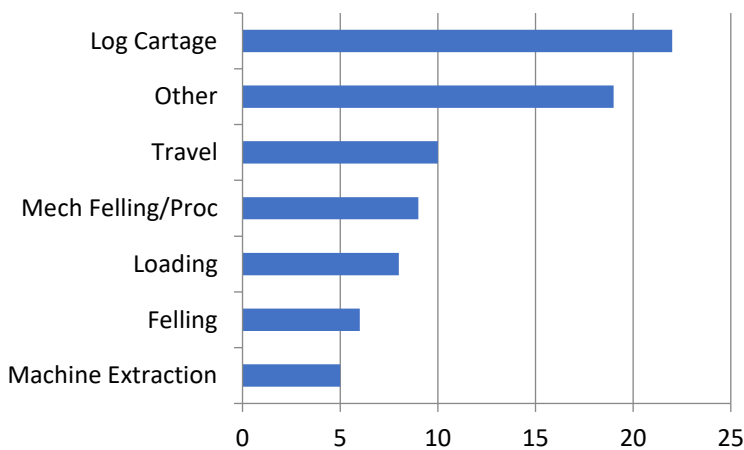


Figure 10. Near Hits by Task

The most reported near hit events were during log cartage tasks with a total of 22 incidents. Six incidents were influenced by environmental conditions resulting in loss of traction, eight were from radio miscommunications, two were logs falling from the truck or movement in the load, and four were safety breaches – not wearing a seatbelt (3) and talking on phone while driving (1).

Poor technique was identified in 23 of all the 'Near Hits' events. Of these, 14 incidents were associated with vehicles including log cartage (6), loading (4), travel (3) and driving (1).