

11 August 2023

# SAFETY ALERT

## Driving on unsealed forestry roads.

### Incident.

This light vehicle rollover occurred primarily due to the Driver entering the corner on the far left of the road where it was off-camber and there was loose metal.

The driver and the passenger were shaken with the driver receiving minor whiplash. As you can imagine the injuries would have been far worse had they not been wearing their seatbelts.

The light vehicle was badly damaged and is likely to be written off.

Driving is one of the highest risks to all workers whether it is driving to and from work on a public road or within the forest.



### Learnings.

Distraction and inattention while driving can be costly. Always have your mind fully focused on the task at hand.

- If you have a four-wheel drive vehicle and you are driving on an unsealed forestry road you must have the vehicle in four-wheel drive.
- Drive to the conditions and the sign-posted speed limit.
- Reduce your speed if road conditions worsen.
- Avoid carrying loose or heavy objects within your vehicle. Ensure that any such items are safely secured or stored separately from the vehicle occupants.
- Wearing your seat belt reduces the risk of a serious or life-threatening injury should an incident occur.

**Wearing your seatbelt is one of the MFM (NZ) Lifesaving rules. The driver and passenger of this vehicle were wearing theirs and it did its job.**