



Fatality Alert

Preliminary information from WorkSafe

Post this alert in containers & discuss at safety/tailgate meetings.

Date: January 2024

WorkSafe was notified of a manual tree felling fatality that occurred on 17 November 2023 in the Dannevirke area.

This was a tree clearing / harvesting operation on a farm.

Our thoughts go out to the family and others involved in this tragic event.

This incident is still under investigation and details are still to be determined, so contributing factors to the incident are not available.

Consider the following points for safe manual tree felling:

The ACOP states:

- 11.1.1: Clearfell tree fallers shall be in constant radio contact with another person.
- 11.1.2: A person shall always be available on site to monitor and assist with any tree felling activity if required.
- 2.3.1: Every person undertaking forestry work shall be either under documented training and close supervision, or deemed competent.

Ensure your working alone policies and procedures are in place and are well communicated. These can include:

- Tell someone where you will be working
- Set regular check-in times, including an end of day check-in
- Know what to do in an emergency situation.

Supporting Resources:

Factsheet on working alone: <https://www.datocms-assets.com/97172/1686789150-working-alone-2018.pdf>

Poster on working alone: https://www.datocms-assets.com/97172/1686789015-safetree_poster_working_alone.pdf