

FOREST INDUSTRY SAFETY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Together towards zero

Working with partners across the sector to lead a significant improvement in the wellbeing and safety of everyone in forestry.



FOREST
INDUSTRY
SAFETY
COUNCIL



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THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Thanks to everyone who contributed to FISC's work in 2021, particularly our funders – ACC, WorkSafe, and the Forest Growers Levy Trust. Thanks to all the individuals and organisations listed here, and to everyone else who gave their time to support our work.



Acacia Farmery,
(Rayonier), Alby Kurei
(Tree Faller), Allan Laurie (Laurie
Forestry), Andre Huritu (Tree Faller),
Andrew Widdowson (HFM NZ), Angele Toomey
(WorkSafe), Arohi Vadnerkar (WorkSafe), Barry Wells
(Port Blakely), Beau Mallett (Summit Forests), Brendan Slui
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Brent Searle (Harvesting & Silviculture), Brionny Hooper (Scion),
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Cable Harvesting), Hillary Bennett (Leading Safety), Hiki Ellis (Ellis
Silviculture Contractors), Ian Wilton (Forco), Jackie Delaney (FISC),
James Broughton (Tree Faller), Jarred Kihi (Tree Faller), Jeff
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(FISC), Jordan Kirner (Button Logging), Julian Bateson
(Bateson Publishing; FFA), Karl Bowman
(Worker Rep; Rosewarne Contractors),
Ken Black (Tree Faller), Kerry Hill
(Trinder Engineers),



Ketan Chandu

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Ihaka (FICA; FPS Forestry),

Philip Hope (Eastland Wood Council),

Kristy Kewene (Blackburne Group), Lance Hare

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Les Bak (OneFortyOne), Les Owens (Te Waa Logging),

Lockie Clelland (DC Equipment), Luke Hughes (Tree Faller),

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(FICA), Trevor Best (Independent Researcher), Tyson Niha (Tree

Faller), Vance Tohaia (Tohaia Forestry Harvesting), Veronica

McDonald (NZFM), Virginia Burton-Konia (ACC), Wade Brunt

(Safetree Toroawhi), Warwick Wilshire (LTSC),

Wayne Dempster (Rayonier Matariki),

Willie Sinclair (Wenita), Waa Owens

(Te Waa Logging), Zac Robinson

(Port Blakely).

If you'd like to get involved in
FISC's work this year contact:
enquiries@fisc.org.nz

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Cover photo: Toroawhi Richard Stringfellow with Mahi Rakau, Wahine Toa crew, Kaingaroa Forest.



ABOUT US

FISC IS LEADING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND SAFETY IN FORESTRY

The Forest Industry Safety Council (FISC) is working with its partners across the sector to lead a significant improvement in the wellbeing and safety of everyone working in forestry.

FISC's creation was a recommendation of the 2014 Independent Forestry Safety Review. FISC runs a range of safety and wellbeing initiatives under the Safetree brand, including the safetree.nz website.

Its workplan is guided by Council members and its programmes and resources are developed together with people working across the forest industry. This is to ensure they are practical and meet the needs of the New Zealand industry.

The Council includes representatives of the NZ Forest Owners Association, Forest Industry Contractors Association and NZ Farm Forestry Association, along with WorkSafe and ACC. It also has people representing Māori and workers, including from First Union (for the NZ Council of Trade Unions). See a list of 2021 Council members on the inside back cover.

FISC is funded by the Forest Growers Levy Trust, ACC and WorkSafe.

TO ACHIEVE ITS GOAL, FISC IS FOCUSING ON:



LEADERSHIP



UNDERSTANDING RISK



ENGAGEMENT



CAPABILITY



PERFORMANCE

FROM THE CHAIR

BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATIONS

In this foreword, I want to acknowledge the enormous challenges over the last year for all involved in the forestry industry. As well as the Covid pandemic impacts, once again the industry has had to contend with a collapse in log prices which have placed enormous stress on every business in the value chain and their employees.

In this context, FISC has had a busy year working with the industry on Covid management responses, continued delivery of the core certification and training programmes, engagement with stakeholders and making significant progress on executing the next stage of its strategy – ‘Better Work’ – a more integrated approach to embedding best practice health and safety in the forest workplace.

It was pleasing to have formal recognition for FISC as the Leadership workshops programme was a finalist, and the Toroawhi/Worker Champion programme received a Judges’ Commendation, at the NZ Workplace H&S Awards, both speaking to the quality and innovation of work that FISC is known for.

FISC brings key participants in the forest industry together to co-operate in initiatives that impact on the lives and whānau of the industry’s workers. I acknowledge and thank the Council, TAG members, National Director Fiona Ewing and the FISC team for their contribution and hard work that has resulted in a full year of delivery, even with such a disrupted year. I would also acknowledge and thank ACC, WorkSafe, the Forest Growers Levy Trust and Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service for their continued strong support and practical engagement with FISC.

A good foundation

While FISC has contributed to a significant and measurable improvement in the awful statistics seen in 2013, that led to the review and establishment of FISC, we continue to see preventable fatalities and serious injuries occurring. The overarching objective for FISC is ‘together towards zero’ and while a solid foundation has been laid there are now several key strategic challenges that FISC will be focussed on.

Evolving the operational and funding model to allow FISC to meet its strategic objective

FISC relies on project grants and industry levies to fund its activities. While it was originally envisaged as a thought-leader and forum for various stakeholders to meet and focus on a vital shared issue, its natural evolution is seeing increasing operational activities for the core programmes and initiatives. How these can be best developed, funded and executed is a key strategic question.

Further development of stakeholder co-operation and engagement

Ultimately achieving the aim of ‘together towards zero’ will require the co-operation and engagement of forest owners, managers, contractors, workers, government and communities. It requires good work design, creating a culture of risk management, standards of best practice and evolving an engagement model where safety is embedded in a dynamic and active workplace.

Forest owners and those they employ as managers must insist on having best practice standards met in the forestry workplace, as reflected in Safetree Certification. Contractors, who are largely the actual doers on the forest floor and experience the risks on a day-to-day basis, must commit to good work design principles that will reduce the risk for workers and also improve the morale and engagement of their teams and crews. Good leadership and cultures within a business are a pre-requisite for good health and safety outcomes.

Building on the foundation

FISC is focussed on five strategic pillars: Leadership, Engagement, Capability, Understanding Risk and Performance.

A solid foundation has been laid for these pillars that has had a real impact and seen positive cultural and practical change in the industry. A body of best practice knowledge now exists in the certification programmes. Training processes to make this knowledge accessible have been developed. Now, we must move this knowledge into every forest as part of a ‘Better Work’ approach so that it practically happens every day in every forestry workplace.

I look forward to working with the Council and all stakeholders as we continue ‘together towards zero’.

Simon O’Grady
Independent Chair, FISC



FROM THE NATIONAL SAFETY DIRECTOR

As the forestry industry changes and matures, FISC needs to adapt our work to ensure we are delivering initiatives that make a difference to the wellbeing and safety of people working in this industry.

With that goal in mind, FISC has reviewed our strategy and as a result in future you will see us focusing on three key areas:

Promoting better understanding of risk

Traditionally in forestry 'risk management' has meant having set rules and processes for people to follow. However, this approach ignores the fact that in forestry people work in constantly changing environments where things don't always follow the plan, and where unintended human errors can have very serious consequences. So, our work will focus on supporting the workforce across the sector to become more highly skilled at understanding risk, particularly critical risks which cause fatalities in the sector. We also look at how other areas of a person's life are impacted by risk factors outside of work. This work will include running our Understanding Risk workshops and the Safetree certification programme.

Promoting effective worker engagement

Experience shows us that the safest workplaces are the ones where workers are actively involved in decisions about how work gets done. That's why the Health and Safety at Work Act requires businesses to engage with workers and ensure they participate in how work is done. This is particularly important because the dynamic nature of forestry work means sometimes the 'rules' can be hard to follow, and workers need to be able to talk about the best ways to deal with a situation. They also need to work in environments that support them to speak up when things aren't going well or according to the plan. So, we will continue to promote effective worker engagement and participation through our Toroawhi / worker champions initiative.

Promoting 'better work'

This term sums up three important ways that forest managers and owners can positively influence health and safety: 'higher order controls', 'safety in design' and 'upstream duties'. 'Higher order controls' refers to the expectation businesses will adopt the most effective ways to protect workers – not just the easiest or cheapest. Mechanisation is an example of a higher order control. 'Safety in design' is the idea that work should be designed to be safe, rather than safety being a 'clip-on' added later. A good example of 'safety in design' is not planting trees on slopes that are too steep to harvest mechanically. 'Upstream duties' refers to the responsibilities of forest owners and managers to ensure contractors can, and are, working safely. This can include adopting a safety in design approach and enabling contractors to use higher order controls. We will step up our activities to encourage and support forest managers and owners to create 'better work'. This will include sharing the stories of how they are already going about this.

As we all know there's no silver bullet to solve poor health and safety outcomes. However, I firmly believe that focusing on these three areas, along with understanding the actual work being done and what is needed to make that work successful, will make the shift that we need to make a difference.

No one should go to work and not come home to their whānau at the end of the day.

Fiona Ewing
National Safety Director, FISC



2021 MILESTONES

LEADERSHIP

Continued to lead the development of forestry's Covid-19 working protocols and worked with WorkSafe, MPI and others to produce and share Covid-19 resources.

Frontline Leadership and Team Up workshops further developed and delivered to 617 participants since 2019. Safetree's Leadership workshops were a finalist in the 2021 NZ Workplace H&S Awards.

Updated FISC's strategy to include a focus on supporting forest managers and owners to create 'better work' that supports wellbeing and safety.

Continued to provide a strong voice for the industry in engagements with Government Ministers, officials and agencies, including WorkSafe and Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

UNDERSTANDING RISK

Delivered four workshops on Understanding Risk, which offered a new way of approaching risk management.

Produced a draft Steep Slope Harvesting Guide for industry feedback.

Created and distributed video and written resources, including sharing industry alerts and highlighting good practices.

KYND app continues to help workers manage their health and the industry to aggregate health statistics.

Delivered an additional 166 packs of our Tailgate Meeting Cards and 560 packs of our Tailgate Health Cards.

ENGAGEMENT

Toroawhi/Worker Engagement Champion continued to work with contractors, managers and workers to improve worker involvement and worker wellbeing.

Safetree website was further developed as a connector to forest workers and industry – 3357 registrations for the National Safety Director updates and 3003 Facebook followers.

Safetree Conference postponed to June 2022 due to Covid-19.

CAPABILITY

Completed a significant industry led review of Certification, with the recommendations being fully implemented in 2022.

Safetree Contractor Certification increased to 285 companies (an increase of 183 since 2018), with 185 currently moving towards certification.

Safetree Professional Forest Workers Certification increased to 419.

PERFORMANCE

129 workers suffered injuries serious enough to require at least a week of work. 3 fatalities were reported by WorkSafe.

OUR WORK

LEADERSHIP

- » Continued to lead the development of forestry's Covid-19 working protocols and worked with WorkSafe, MPI and others to produce and share Covid-19 resources.
- » Frontline Leadership and Team Up workshops further developed and delivered to 617 participants since 2019. Safetree's Leadership workshops were a finalist in the 2021 NZ Workplace H&S Awards.
- » Updated FISC's strategy to include a focus on supporting forest managers and owners to create 'better work' that supports wellbeing and safety.
- » Continue to provide a strong voice for the industry in engagements with Government Ministers, officials and agencies, including WorkSafe and MPI.



Dean Anderson crew at a vaccination event near Tūrangi supported by Safetree.

Omicron Phases "Living with Covid"

This is a guide to the New Zealand Omicron Protection Framework.

Phase 1 Stamp it Out <1000 cases/day	Phase 2 Slow the Spread <1000 cases/day	Phase 3 Manage it >1000 cases/day
PCR Test For all travel, diagnosis, contact tracing	For confirming diagnosis	Only for priority populations (e.g., healthcare, border workers)
RAT Test Voluntary surveillance only	For symptoms & close contacts Daily RAT instead of isolation for close contacts in healthcare, critical workforce and critical infrastructure workers ('Test to Return')	For diagnosis
Notifications By phone (all cases & close contacts)	By text (cases & household contacts only)	By text (cases only)
Investigations Led by health authority	Self-management & contact tracing (online tool to support)	
Notifications By phone (all cases & close contacts)	By text (cases & household contacts only)	By text (cases only)
Contact Tracing Completed for all cases & close contacts	Focus on high-risk exposures (events or locations, household members)	Only high risk contacts (household) are required to isolate
Close Contacts Regular communication & contact tracing by phone. All household contacts and those with close range contact or contact in the same indoor space without adequate protection	Regular communication & contact tracing with household contacts only; other contacts notified by text and self-manage. Symptomatic household contacts are considered probable cases	Contacts notified by text from self-investigation tool and self-manage. Symptomatic household contacts are considered a positive diagnosis
Covid Tracer Notifications Cases isolate 14 days. Close contacts isolate 10 days	Limited use of push notifications, locations of interest or Bluetooth	Limited use of push notifications, locations of interest or Bluetooth
Isolation By phone (all cases & close contacts)	Cases isolate 10 days. Close Contacts isolate 7 days	
Critical Workers Identified by invitation in order to access government supply of RAT and support for critical workers	Businesses can apply in order to access government supply of RAT and support for critical workers	

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Safetree's Covid-19 information is available at www.safetree.nz/resources/covid-19

Supporting the industry during Covid

Throughout the year we continued to provide and share guidance on working safely during the Covid-19 pandemic. This activity included publishing updated protocols for working at different Covid Alert Levels and new guidance for working under the Covid-19 Protection Framework (Traffic Light System).

We also ran two vaccination information webinars, one with Occupational Health Nurse Taumihau Teremoana from Habit Health and the other with Dr Tom Mulholland from KYND Wellness. Highlights of these webinars were turned into short information videos and share widely on Facebook.

We supported industry efforts to protect people and jobs through vaccination, including sponsoring two \$100 prizes for crew and crew whānau at a vaccination event run in October by NZFM, partnered with Pihanga Heath and Tūwharetoa Health.

Leadership workshops



It was great to have our Leadership workshops nominated as a finalist at the 2021 NZ Workplace H&S Awards. These courses, delivered to 617 participants since 2019, were specifically designed for forestry. They support the development of people, and help businesses improve team performance. It's also great to see this training now being made available to other primary industry businesses, with the support of the MPI.

Strategic review and refocus

The Council undertook a strategic review during the year, looking at what we had achieved and what else needed to be done. The review confirmed the value of our certification scheme and engagement / Toroawhi work. It also highlighted the need for an additional workstream – which we have called ‘better work’. This workstream focuses on three key ways that forest managers and owners can positively influence health and safety: by supporting ‘higher order controls’ and ‘safety in design’, and by meeting their ‘upstream duties’. It will be a major focus for us in future. (See the National Safety Directors report on page 6 for more on ‘better work’.)

A strong voice for forestry

A key benefit of FISC is that it provides a unified voice for the forestry industry in discussions with government about health and safety. FISC regularly engages with the Workplace Relations and Safety, and Forestry, Ministers, and officials from WorkSafe, Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), MPI and ACC. This includes providing input into MPI’s workforce strategy and MBIE’s ongoing Plant, Structures and Working at Heights Health and Safety Regulatory review. FISC is also an active member of the Forestry and Wood Processing Workforce Council, which is working to improve capacity and capability in the forestry Workforce. FISC’s National Safety Director, Fiona Ewing, is the Council’s Deputy Chair.

Our Strategy on a page

What we want for Forestry in New Zealand

A safe, sustainable, and professional forestry sector, achieved in partnership with workers, growers, forestry businesses and government.

Why we are here

To work with our partners and lead a significant change to improve the wellbeing and safety of everyone working in forestry so our people will thrive.

What we want to see improve

- ✓ Capability and capacity
- ✓ Stakeholder perceptions and support
- ✓ Worker voice being heard and valued
- ✓ Retention and attraction of people
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Culture
- ✓ Thriving people
- ✓ Information sharing with and from the sector

How we'll measure our contribution

Uptake

Increase the number of people/companies using Safetree programmes and the resources. The Safetree website is a portal for health, wellbeing and safety tools for the industry managed and maintained by FISC.

Sector progress will be tracked using the Safetree Dashboard.

Impact

As a result of interacting with us, people/companies improve their capabilities, particularly around leadership, worker engagement and participation and risk management.



What will we do?

► Leadership

Embed sector leadership by establishing good work design principles for the sector. Focusing on the whole supply chain and how they can contribute to good work design and ultimately successful work. This will be supported by a fundamental review and refresh of the FISC safety charter and further development of industry certification.

► Engagement

Promote and support better engagement and participation across all segments of the sector. An equally strong focus on worker engagement and participation supported by the Toroawhi.

► Risk

Deliver activities to support a better understanding of risk, and its management, across the supply chain.

► Capability

Build capability through certification, leadership development and other workshops. Support good practice and share industry stories through Safetree.

► Performance

Support the industry to better understand the key elements required for successful work and how this leads to improved performance.

UNDERSTANDING RISK

- » Delivered four workshops on Understanding Risk, which offered a new way of approaching risk management.
- » Produced a draft Steep Slope Harvesting Guide for industry feedback.
- » Created and shared resources, including videos, industry alerts and stories of good practices.
- » Delivered an additional 166 Tailgate Meeting Cards packs and 560 Tailgate Health Cards packs.

Understanding Risk Workshops

Safetree developed workshops to help businesses better understand risk, and ran four of these workshops in regional areas in 2021. The workshops are run with people across the contracting chain – including separate sessions for workers, crew owners/contractors and forest owners/managers. That means people can talk about the risks they face and the controls they can put in place, and can identify the controls they need other people in the contracting chain to put in place. To inquire about having a workshop run for your business email info@safetree.nz

Draft Steep Slope Harvesting Guide

Mechanised harvesting has transformed some forestry operations, greatly reducing risks to manual fallers and breakers out. However, mechanised harvesting on steep slopes creates different risks. So at the industry's request, FISC has been working with a broad group of experts and industry people to create a New Zealand Winch-Assisted Harvesting Good Practice Guide. The guide will set a benchmark for winch-assisted harvesting on steep slopes, for both corporate and small-lot operators. The draft was circulated for final industry feedback in December and is due to be published in 2022.



Understanding Risk workshop in Kāpiti.

Resources, Alerts, Industry Stories

We continue to create and share resources to support risk management. This includes sharing industry alerts and highlighting good practices. These include:

Resources

Tree Fallers Logbook: This resource is used by manual fallers to record activity and experience. See the resource www.safetree.nz/resources/tree-faller-logbook

Alerts

The following alerts/information sheets were shared through Safetree:

- » **Trailer failure:** Alert from PF Olsen about an incident where the left-hand wheel separated from a towed ATV trailer while travelling on the public highway.
- » **Need for Guarding on Forestry Machinery:** Safetree Alert providing information about preventing falls from machinery, or any large plant and equipment, and the use of guardrails.
- » **Preventing Forest Fires:** Information from NZFOA on managing the risks of forest fires (Rural Fire – A Guide on How to Manage the Risks and Forest Fire Risk Management Guidelines)
- » **Log Transport Alert:** From PF Olsen about a driver injured while racking-down the first bunk on the trailer.
- » **Log Intrusion into Hatch:** From Timberlands about a snapped log entering the cabin area of a machine via the emergency escape hatch, narrowly missing the operator.
- » **Handbrake Malfunction:** From DT Kings Transport about a faulty handbrake on a logging truck.

These alerts can be found at www.safetree.nz/safety-alerts. Thanks to everyone who shared this information. It's an important way for the industry to learn and improve.

Filling in the logbook

- Fill in one page for each day you do manual tree falling.
- Keep your books as a record of your falling experience. It can be useful for future employers to see how much falling you have done.
- Each day, tick the box closest to the conditions you worked in, and record details, such as how many drives you do. If you can't remember how many you did, the contact person monitoring your call ups should be able to tell you.
- Also include any comments that could be useful, such as whether the wind came up in the afternoon or your saw broke down, etc.
- Here's an example of how a page might look.

4

SAFETY ALERT - UPDATE

THIS UPDATE REPLACES SAFETY ALERT #12 (13/10/21)

Incident Ref: INC-00277 Date Issued: 22/10/2021 Safety Alert #: 012A

Subject: **Stem Entered Harvester Cabin**

Date: 6th October 2021 Location: Kaingaroa Forest

Time: 8.00am Plant Type: Mechanical harvester

Site/BU: Harvesting

Description of Incident

A fixed falling machine was felling a double leader tree with a rotten section. While the operator was placing the tree, it snapped into three pieces at the rotten crutch. The stem was above the cab of the machine when it snapped, the base of the stem remained fixed in the falling head.

One leader has come down landing close to the machine. The second, larger leader, has fallen vertically down into the machine entering the cabin area via the emergency escape hatch, piercing the operators seat. The leader was approximately 740 kg with a sharp tip.

The operator escaped serious injury or death because he had noticed the double leaders had snapped off the main stem of the log. The snapping has prompted the operator to move forward and look up. It is believed the second leader has entered the cab at this point. When the leader entered the cabin, it scratched the operator's back causing relatively minor abrasions.

Cause of Incident

An investigation into the cause of the incident is ongoing and we are liaising with the machine's manufacturer. The ISO 8083:2006 standard, specific to forestry machines, requires the FOPS guarding to withstand a 227kg object falling from a height of 5.2 metres. The machine appears to have met this standard. However, in this incident a 740kg object fell from a height of 10 metres exerting forces which exceed the current standard.

Preventative Measures

- The manufacturer has made a strengthened emergency hatch. All Timberpro machines (with escape hatch) operating within the KT estate were stood down until strengthened emergency hatches were fitted.
- Timberlands' harvest managers, together with contractor principals, are reviewing roof escape hatches in other harvesting operational machines.
- A review of the ISO 8083:2006 standard may be required in due course.

This Safety Alert must be posted on all workplace notice boards and used by Supervisors as a subject for discussion at Toolbox Meetings.

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE T ALL WORKPLACES

Ngā Haka i te Hauauru (Partners in Safety)

© Timberlands Limited, Dunedin, New Zealand
10/21 Safety Alert 012A
Timberlands 0800 3021 11

Industry Stories

Safe-Start 2022 Resource on the Business Benefits of Improving Worker Engagement: In this case study Forest Protection Services (FPS) director Kevin Ihaka talks about how setting up a Health and Safety Committee helped him get on top of health and safety issues before they turned into bigger problems. He also talks about how the committee's role has expanded to become a Leadership Forum that helps him run a better business. See more at www.safetree.nz/resources/worker-engagement



Gavin and Chrystal Edmonds' industry story has had more than 22,000 views.

How Stirling Logging is rehabilitating workers and getting them back into the forest: In this video Gisborne contractors Gavin and Chrystal Edmonds, from Stirling Logging, talk about the initiative they have started to help forestry workers recover from drug problems and get back to work in the forest. Gavin and Chrystal say they're motivated by a desire to help workers who want to change. They also say forestry can't afford to lose experienced people to drugs when there is such a shortage of skilled workers. See their story at <https://vimeo.com/655891962>



Journeye Houston from FPS took part in an industry story about worker engagement.

ENGAGEMENT

- » Toroawhi/Worker Engagement Champions continue to work with contractors, managers and workers to improve worker participation and wellbeing.
- » Safetree website, email and Facebook page further developed as a connector to forest workers and industry.
- » Safetree Conference postponed to June 2022 due to Covid-19.

Toroawhi win at awards

Our Toroawhi/Worker Champion initiative was recognised at the 2021 NZ Workplace H&S Awards in May, winning a Judges Commendation award. It was encouraging to receive this recognition of the hard work done by the people who helped get this initiative off the ground and have kept it going.

The Toroawhi initiative gives workers a stronger voice in health and safety and was co-designed with Council members First Union and WorkSafe.

During the year our two Toroawhi, Richard Stringfellow and Wade Brunt, visited crews, contractors, forest managers and others, including those operating in corporate and small-lot environments. At these meetings they start by talking about their own experiences (together they have a total of 40 years' forestry experience). They particularly focus on worker wellbeing and how this relates to safety. They give people an opportunity to talk (both during and after the meetings) about issues with health and safety on site, or with their own physical or mental wellbeing. They act as coaches and mentors to help people deal with health and safety issues that come up. When wellbeing issues arise, they help connect people with professional services that can help them.

The Toroawhi also act as coaches and mentors to help contractors working to achieve Safetree Contractor Certification, particularly in relation to the worker engagement section of the certification assessment. In addition, they help crew members and supervisors/owners who have attended FISC's Leadership and Understanding Risk workshops to practice and embed what they have learned, particularly in relation to good communication – a key element of good engagement.



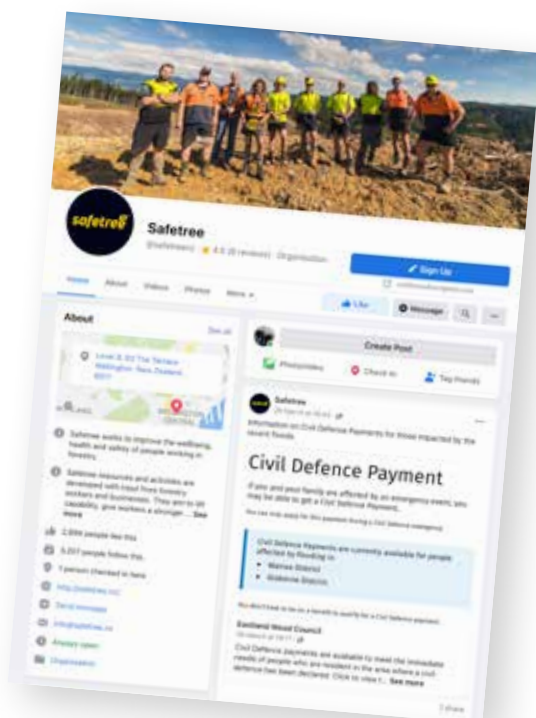
The team behind Safetree's Toroawhi initiative, with Minister Michael Woods (second from right), after winning at the 2021 NZ Workplace H&S Awards. FISC would like to acknowledge the work of WorkSafe's Grant Duffy (Back row, centre) who passed away not long after this photo was taken.



Toroawhi Richard Stringfellow talks to an Ellis Silviculture crew.

Forestry Peddlers

As part of his outreach work, Toroawhi Richard Stringfellow has set up Safetree Forestry Peddlers in the Central North Island. Forestry Peddlers is where people in the forestry sector supply chain, along with whānau and friends, come together every fortnight on a Sunday to ride local mountain bike trails. This is a great way to meet others in different roles and companies, and provides an opportunity for people to share stories and discuss issues in a safe and supportive environment. Following the success of this initiative, Safetree is looking to expand Forestry Peddlers into other regions in 2022.



Safetree

The Safetree website, newsletter and Facebook page continued to provide information to the industry.

The Facebook page had 3003 followers. The most successful Facebook post was our industry story on Stirling Logging helping workers rehabilitate, which has had 21,500 views.

During the year, 20 newsletters were sent to about 3410 recipients. The newsletter had an open rate of 30%, slightly above the benchmark opening rate internationally for Not-For-Profits during 2021 of 27%, as calculated by our electronic email provider, Campaign Monitor.

The website had about 20,000 unique users during the year, up 25% on the previous year. After the homepage, the most visited pages were the Resources section, the Safetree Tree Faller training game and the Certification page. The Certification Register had 1,850 visits.

CAPABILITY



- » Review of Certification completed, recommendations being implemented.
- » 285 Certified Contractors, another 185 moving towards certification.
- » 419 Workers Certified.

Certification review

A review of certification was completed during 2021 and we began to implement the recommendations to make the scheme more robust and responsive to industry needs.

These changes included moving to a new online system for registering information, to be run by EcoPortal.



Te Waa Logging receive their Contractor Certification certificate at a company family day.

We are also developing the framework for a tiered certification scheme to provide 'stretch' goals for businesses with more mature practices. The new EcoPortal online system will also allow for additional modules to be added in future.

To ensure a robust and streamlined model, FISC has directly taken over governance of the certification scheme, rather than having a separate Certification Panel.

FISC is also administering the scheme, and has appointed a Certification Manager.

These changes will support the scheme to grow and develop. They will ensure better consistency around the application of audits, and will deliver economies of scale through more efficient planning of audits.

Resources have also been provided to promote Certification and to increase communication with certified contractors and others.

Thanks to everyone in the Safetree Certification Review TAG, who reviewed the scheme and helped come up with these recommendations.

PERFORMANCE

- ❗ 129 workers suffered injuries serious enough to require at least a week of work.
- ❗ 3 fatalities were reported by WorkSafe.



2022 KEY INITIATIVES

FISC will focus on 3 areas:

- » Worker and contractor certification
- » The Toroawhi / Worker Engagement initiative
- » Engaging with forest owners and managers to support them to create 'better work'.

We will also continue to focus on several longer-term initiatives, including:

✓ LEADERSHIP

- Launch the new Forestry Safety Charter/ Safetree Pledge.
- Run a project to understand how we can measure key aspects of better work.
- Continue to work with other industry health and safety leadership bodies.

✓ UNDERSTANDING RISK

- Launch the NZ Winch-Assisted Harvesting Good Practice Guide.
- Work with forest owners and managers and small-lot owners on raising awareness of their role in creating 'better work'.
- Review forestry's drugs and alcohol policy.

✓ ENGAGEMENT

- Continue the Toroawhi roles.
- Safetree Conference: June 2022, Queenstown.
- Work more closely with Wood Councils to expand our reach
- Run regional workshops, where safe to do so.
- Improve engagement with Iwi Trusts that have significant forestry holdings.

✓ CAPABILITY

- Complete launch of revamped Safetree Certification.
- Further promote Forest Manager Certification.
- Continue to deliver the Understanding Risk workshops.

✓ PERFORMANCE

- Continue to monitor and communicate industry performance through our quarterly dashboard and the IRIS system.
- Work with WorkSafe to see how more information from completed incident investigations could be shared with the industry.

2021 MEMBERS

FOREST INDUSTRY SAFETY COUNCIL 2021 MEMBERS

Simon O'Grady

Independent Chair *(from April 2021)*

Fiona Ewing

National Safety Director, FISC

Alison Paterson

Independent Chair *(until April 2021)*

Dr Angela Mansell

Acting Director Engagement and Implementation,
External Strategy & Engagement Group, WorkSafe

Don Wallace

NZ Farm Forestry Association

Kevin Ihaka

Managing Director, FPS Forestry

Prue Younger

CEO FICA

Glen Coleman

Health and Safety Manager, Hancock Natural Resource Group
(from February 2021)

Louisa Jones

Assistant General Secretary, First Union

Willie Sinclair

Health and Safety Manager Wenita Forests
(Worker Rep: April – December 2021)

Brady Clements

Director of Forest Safety Management Ltd
(from April 2021)

Grant Dodson

CEO City Forests

Karl Bowman

Workplace Trainer Assessor, Rosewarne Contractors
(Worker Rep)

Ross Davis

Director of Log Lease and President of FICA

Wayne Dempster

Director of Health and Safety, Rayonier Matariki

Debbie Ward (Observer)

Director of Business and Spatial Intelligence Te Uru Rākau –
NZ Forest Service

Virginia Burton-Konia

Manager of Workplace Safety, ACC



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