

# Field Guide - Safe Work Zone

In forest operations, the risk of an incident increases when operators are not separated into safe work zones (or areas).

## SAFE WORK ZONE

The work zone may be directly related to harvesting (harvesting area, harvesting site, felling zone) or any other area where forest operations are occurring, including log processing, loading log trucks, roading operations, snigging etc.

A work zone is made into a Safe Work Zone by separating work activities. This can be achieved by:

- **Physical barrier:** A machine canopy, or a parked machine placed between ground-based workers and other working machines
- **Distance:** The common separation distance is a minimum of two tree lengths of any tree being felled or snigged
- **Time:** Risk can be reduced by scheduling different parts of operations to occur at different times. For example, log landing construction to occur before the processing commences, or tree marking to occur before felling commences.

## A SAFE PLACE FOR OTHERS

Establish and agree upon a safe place where other operators, hauliers etc can be during forest operations, that is safe and not within the Safe Work Zone.

If a safe place outside of the Safe Work Zone cannot be agreed upon due to the nature of the forest operations, then always maintain communication with operators.

Whilst you are located outside of the Safe Work Zone, there can still be risk

For more information visit [www.qldnativeforestry.com.au](http://www.qldnativeforestry.com.au)

## EXAMPLES OF SAFE WORK ZONES

### FELLING AND SNIGGING

- Separation distance of two tree lengths (approx 60m)
- Entry into safe work zone only occurs with permission from operator
- Separation by scheduling work (time)
- Working away from people and other machines

### LOG PROCESSING

- Separation distance of boom length plus log length
- Separation by barrier (parked equipment)
- Entry into safe work zone only to occur with permission
- Separation by scheduling work

### LOG LOADING

- Truck driver must located in agreed position
  - In line of sight of loader operator in a designated safe area - eg Truck driver at least 20m away from the front or back of the machine
  - Inside the truck cabin
- Ensure truck driver is never in blind spots
- Separation distance of boom length plus 1/2 log length
- Entry into safe work zone only to occur with permission

### ADDITIONAL

Be aware of Chain Shot Zones (refer to Chain Shot Toolbox Guide at [www.qldnativeforestry.com.au](http://www.qldnativeforestry.com.au))

