

TOOLBOX TALK: Signage

Toolbox talks are a great way to share important information that can keep your workers and business safe. Take a few minutes to read through this document with your staff and contractors.

Safety signs in forest operations should:

- Be clear and readable
- Comply with AS 1319: *Safety signs for the occupational environment*
- Be positioned appropriately to give adequate warning of the forest operations occurring to anyone approaching the area.

We use safety signs to:

- Stop unauthorised people from entering the workplace
- Give authorised people directions to a location
- Tell authorised people (visitors) about the PPE that should be used
- Tell authorised people how to enter the site and communicate with the crew.

HARVESTING REQUIREMENTS

Where tree felling is in progress, signs should be used at frequently used entry points to a **harvesting area, site or felling zone**.

A **harvesting area** is the area generally covered by a harvesting plan. It contains one or more harvesting sites and includes other work such as tree marking and road works. Caution/warning signs are usually used at entry points to the area (such as on roads).

A **harvesting site** is the site in which forest harvesting is actively in progress. This area must be signposted with 'Danger' and 'Do not enter' signs.

A **felling zone** is the area in all directions around the tree being felled equivalent to a radial distance of two times the height of the tallest tree within the felling zone.



This sign is placed on access routes to the harvesting area, and remains in place for the duration of all current harvesting activities in the area.



This sign is placed at strategic points along the boundary of the harvesting site. It should be moved along with the active harvesting front. This sign should be removed if harvesting operations cease for periods exceeding one week, provided there are no imminent dangers from the harvesting.



This sign is placed in such a way as to identify the immediate danger zone of the particular hazard.

Note: There are additional requirements for 'tree hang ups'.

Other signs which provide useful information include those for:

- Road closures
- Traffic control
- Truck entry and exit
- UHF and other communications being used in the work area
- Bus routes and cattle signs and,
- Powerlines and other above/below ground utilities.

For further information visit:

- Safe Work Australia - General guide for managing risks in forestry operations
- AS 1319: *Safety signs for the occupational environment*
- *Forest Harvesting Code of Practice 2007*