

SAFETY ALERT

RADIO COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

14th June 2019



WHAT HAPPENED

- A crew set up a temporary road closure for felling alongside an internal forest road
- When a log truck arrived at the banners, he was told on the RT “All good to come through Mate”
- The log truck proceeded to lower the banner and drive up the road as instructed
- The felling machine was still felling when the log truck drove through his strike zone

THE MISCOMMUNICATION

- There was another work site (not felling) within radio range.
- An operator at that other work site heard the log truck ask if it was alright to come through, assumed he was asking about their own site, so gave him the go ahead - “All good to come through Mate”.
- **We get reports of this type of miscommunication often, especially around felling banners.**

ACTIONS REQUIRED

- Clearly identify yourself and who you are talking to - “Tree Faller at Crew 70, it’s Truck 4321, I’m at your felling banner”
- Give/get clear acknowledgement – “4321 you’re clear to come through Crew 70 felling banner” and so on
- Use Crew/Truck numbers and names – when communicating on the RT to avoid any confusion.
- Mate and/or Bro is NOT a callsign