

SAFETY ALERT

Dead Spars



What Happened:

The planting crew found a dead native spar which had felling cuts in it (back cut) in the cutover that was still standing. The planter that found the spar has attempted to push it over without success. At a later date the spar was felled successfully and safely by a qualified tree feller eliminating the hazard.

Key learnings:

- Crews need to have a procedure for dealing with spars and trees with felling cuts in them as they become known and not approach or attempt to fell them.
- ACoP rule 11.6.1. Harvesting operations must fell all trees and spars that have cuts in them so as not to pose a hazard in the future to any operations.
- Once spars are identified, all personal on site need to be notified immediately and the hazard isolated. A safety meeting must be held and the new hazard marked on a map before any work recommences around the hazard.
- No work should be done within two tree lengths of spars or trees with felling cuts.
- Notify Forest Enterprises as soon as practicably possible.