

# ENVIRONMENT



# ALERT

**TITLE:** Incursion into stream reserve

Number: 12

Date issued: 15 November 2023

## Background

On 25/10/23, a harvester incursion into an informal stream reserve resulted in several small trees being harvested.

## Key Points

Contributing factors to this event:

- In the incident area, the harvest exclusion area was not fully encircled with white painted crosses or white tape.
- Scale of the map may not have enabled clear understanding of harvest boundaries.
- Operator was looking for white tape as opposed to white crosses and did not realise they were outside harvest area.

## Reminder

- Demarcation needs to be clearly visible. Areas available for harvesting and excluded from harvesting should be obvious after demarcation.
- White tape (as opposed to painted crosses) is used in thick vegetation or when there are insufficient numbers of trees available.
- Machine operators must stop and check if they are ever unsure of their location. Note that accuracy of GPS can vary, be sure to use devices at an appropriate zoom to view details.
- Any trees mistakenly felled from an exclusion zone are to be left in situ until a decision is made by DBCA.

## Additional Notification

- Please note in response to a previous incident, the FPC335 has now been updated to contain a field to ensure formal reserve boundaries will be worked against in daylight hours only.