

# CONTRACTOR SAFETY ALERT



## Travelling with a raised boom

Number: 55

Issued: 10/01/2022

### Background

On Thursday 6th January 2022, an FPC contractor's forwarder has been commuting between cells, with its boom in a raised upright position.

The boom has struck the overhanging limb of a standing marri, which at its base, was rotten. The tree, as it fell has slid down the boom arm and become lodged in-between the cab and log bunker.

Fortunately, there were no injuries.



### Key Points

- The operator was travelling with the machines boom raised, whereas it should have been in a horizontal position.
- The operator was aware of the overhang and has misjudged its height in relation to the boom.
- The tree had been marked for retention as a habitat tree.
- It is unknown if at the time of tree marking the tree was identifiable as a potential hazard, but ongoing, if there are concerns of overhanging trees on access roads these should be reported.
- Highlights the importance of appropriate, compliant, and maintained machine guarding which should never be taken for granted.
- Contractors should refer to the "Forest Equipment Guarding Best Practice Guidelines 2020" for appropriate guarding standards for machines and associated activities, refer link below:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uRv7f3j\\_UOxm3vt7RqMtM\\_\\_oegvwnQSO/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uRv7f3j_UOxm3vt7RqMtM__oegvwnQSO/view)