



Zero Fatalities
Zero Lost Time
Zero Road/Speed Incidents
Zero Environmental Incidents
Zero Tolerance of Unsafe Behaviours & Practices



PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 9

Date: 09 April 2019	Focus Group: Tree Fellers
Topic: Large Falling Object – Critical Risk!	Issued by: Nic Steens

Incident: Some stems had been stockpiled on a road edge above where a tree feller (L4 Safetree certified) and his observer were felling trees. They had identified the stockpile as a risk so left a few trees standing as a protective barrier. While the observer moved the fuel cans, the feller started on one of barrier trees, deeming it to be safe to do so. One of the stockpiled stems broke free and rolled downhill hitting the tree feller.

Injury Details: The tree feller sustained a fractured pelvis – LTI.

Risk Awareness: Large falling objects are a common hazard for manual tree fellers. Felling large trees can disturb root balls, rocks, and logs etc. causing them to fall or roll onto those working below.

Safe Behaviour: A particular risk must be managed in accordance with the regulations – see: [General Risk and Workplace Management Regulations](#) (s. 25) “... If it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate the risk” it **must be** minimised by “... measures for preventing an object from falling freely; or ... a system to arrest the fall” or the PCBU must provide “... an exclusion zone that persons are prohibited from entering.”

For Site Manager use (print this document and then complete):

This safety alert is relevant to my site? Yes or No (circle one)

If yes, complete the following actions:

1. This safety alert has been discussed with employees and operators
2. I have placed this safety alert on the site notice board or in the safety file

Site Manager: _____
(signature)

Date: / /