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## Safety Signage in Forestry Operations

Safety signs are important in any work environment to warn others of the potential dangers / hazards in certain situations or environments.

In forestry, a combination of danger signs, warning signs, prohibition signs and restriction signs are used to warn workers and others about the risks and requirements for entry.

### SUMMARY OF RELEVANT AS / ISO STANDARDS & INDUSTRY GUIDANCE

#### AS1319—Safety Signage for the Occupational Environment

Sets out the requirements for design and use of safety signs which are designed to regulate and control behavior, warn of hazards and provide emergency information.

#### AS 1742—Road signs: Uniform traffic control devices

This standard covers the signs used for regulating, warning and guiding road users, specifying and setting out the basic design of signs including size, shape and colour.

#### AS1743— Road Signs—specifications

The following are useful guide documents and contain specific sections or chapters relating to signage in forestry operations:

#### Forestry: Guide to managing risks of coupe and harvesting site access and preparation (Safework Australia)

Page 3—Safety Signs

#### Forest Safety Code (Tasmania) (WorkSafe Tasmania)

Section 7—Site Access and Roding

#### Safety in forestry operations: Harvesting and haulage (WorkSafe Victoria)

Section 6.3 - Safety Signage

### TYPES OF SIGNS AND THEIR USES

#### PROHIBITION SIGNS:

Signs that tell people not to do something.



#### WARNING SIGNS:

Awareness of upcoming hazards or hazard conditions that would require caution.



#### MANDATORY SIGNS:

Indicate a certain instruction that must be followed in the area where they are displayed.



#### DANGER SIGNS:

Warn of a particular hazard or hazardous condition that is likely to be life threatening.





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## Forestry Safety Signage cont.

### ENTRY SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS

All signage should be legible and placed in a location to allow maximum warning to any person approaching.

As a minimum, signs should be placed at each entrance to the coupe **AND** in any area where there is likely to be a hazardous activity (e.g. landing or chain shot area).

Recommended signage requirements include:

- No Entry (Authorised vehicles accepted)
- PPE requirements
- DANGER Forestry Operations
- Radio Call Sign (UHF)
- Emergency Meeting Point

### EXAMPLE OF COUPE ENTRY SIGNAGE

These should be placed at each entry point.



### EXAMPLE OF TREE FELLING WARNING SIGNAGE

Signs should be used in prominent places, and at entry points during operation.



### EXAMPLE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SIGNAGE

Signs should be placed to designate the emergency meeting location.





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### OTHER SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS

Additional signage may be required depending on the location of the coupe and nature of activities and should be determined based on a risk assessment of the road access and operating conditions.

Hazards /conditions that may warrant additional signage include:



Aerial Spraying



Road works / Road closures



Controlled burning



Truck entry / exit points



Drone use



Chain shot zone

It is likely you will need to consider your signage requirements in addition to other road access and traffic controls such as barriers and gates. These should be determined while considering all road and operational access risks and requirements.