



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



PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 20

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|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Date: 12 August 2019 | Focus Group: Tree Fellers |
| Topic: 5 Step Felling Plan, Light Duties (RTW) | Issued by: Nic Steens |

Incident: A Level 4 Safetree Certified tree feller was preparing the scarf in a large edge tree in readiness for machine assistance. As he did so, an 8m (80kg) branch broke out and fell to the ground. The large curved branch then rolled back and struck the tree feller in his lower torso area. In trying to get out of the way, he also twisted his ankle.

Injury Details: The feller sustained a bruised torso and a sore ankle. He was taken to A&E for a precautionary check before returning to work on light duties.

Risk Awareness: Large edge trees often house partly broken tops and branches, which are not always observable from the ground looking upwards (because the break is often in the topside of the branch).

Safe Behaviours: The investigation showed excellent planning, technique and PPE. The Contractor also responded speedily to ensure appropriate injury management. Notwithstanding – this incident contains some good reminders:

1. Use the [5-step tree felling plan](#) – look for sagging branches that may be broken.
2. Promptly manage minor injuries [with light duties](#) under the crew RTW plan.

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: _____ **Date:** / /

(signature)