

Safety Alert

10th March 2021

Truck & Trailer Rollover



The driver of a loaded log truck was travelling north along SH32 near Whakamaru close to dawn when an oncoming light vehicle rounded a bend in the road with headlights (and extra fitted spotlights) on full beam. The light vehicle did not dip his headlights and seemed to be driving slightly over the centreline, blinding the log truck driver. The truck driver moved to the left of the road to avoid colliding with the light vehicle. The truck and trailer's left wheels then dropped off the left edge of the tar seal, pulling the unit more to the left in doing so. At this point the oncoming vehicle had passed, so the truck driver turned to the right to pull the truck back on the road and the trailer

became unstable in doing so, causing the whole unit to sway, over-turning the truck and trailer on to its righthand side.

Fortunately, the driver was uninjured in this incident.

Safety tips to remember when blinded by headlights:

- When dazzled by headlights, always look down to the left fog-line to position your vehicle and not at the oncoming vehicle
- Slow down if possible
- Try to avoid falling off the edge of the road making the vehicle unstable
- Add these tips to your driver inductions, H&S Manuals and team talks

