

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
Client name:	Forestry Tasmania	Certificate #	AFS 603478
Client address	Melville St Hobart	Website:	forestrytas.com.au
Audit type:	Continuing Assessment	Report date:	26 April 2016
Standard:	AS4708:2013	Auditor:	Ross Garsden
This document provides a summary of the findings contained in a report to this client with respect to the implementation of the client's management system as determined during an audit conducted by BSI.			

Scope of certification:
The scope of certification includes all activities associated with the sustainable management of Tasmania's public forests, as described in Forestry Tasmania's Forest Management Plan, including the administration, planning and management of forests including harvest, transport and sale of forest products.

Executive summary:
<p>This report presents the findings of a routine surveillance assessment of Forestry Tasmania's (FT) Forest Management System (FMS) with respect to the requirements of AS4708:2013, the Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management. The audit was conducted concurrently with an assessment of the organisation's complementary Standards, ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management Systems; and AS 4801:2001 Safety Management Systems. Findings in relation to ISO14001 and AS4708 have been incorporated into the structure of this report, where appropriate.</p> <p>The scope of the audit included the application and implementation of the centrally-managed system at the Hobart Head Office as well as the planning and execution of a range of forest management activities in Bass District (Northern Region) and Derwent District (Southern Region).</p> <p>The audit focussed on the effectiveness of the risk management framework within the organisation and included the operation of the Perth Nursery and workshop and depots at Scottsdale and National Park.</p> <p>The audit identified a number of key strengths in the FT management system. These are summarised as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The development of the WIKI has clearly led to a significant improvement in system functionality with respect to internal communication and control of system documentation. 2. The risk management framework is effectively supporting the capacity of the management system to deliver the organisation's policy commitments with respect to safety and environmental management. Objectives and targets are closely aligned with identified risks, and there are mechanisms in place to monitor progress towards achievement of agreed objectives. 3. The management review arrangements are particularly effective in terms of the purpose; the timing; the content; and the organisation's approach. 4. The mechanism for management of non-conformances, particularly the use and functionality of the Vault, is well-understood and used consistently.

5. The effectiveness of the internal audit arrangements, particularly with respect to scheduling and the capacity of the team involved was clearly demonstrated.
6. The effectiveness of planning processes and implementation of operational controls for all forest operations were demonstrated.
7. Stakeholder engagement processes were demonstrated to be highly effective, particularly in some difficult and contentious circumstances.

The non-conformances noted in the previous report have been effectively addressed and are now closed. No new non-conformances were identified during this assessment, however a number of observations have been made which present opportunities for further improvement in the effectiveness of the management system, particularly with respect to risk management.

FT has demonstrated that its Forest Management System effectively incorporates the requirements of the respective Standards and that the system is supporting both staff and contractors in managing risks associated with the business. Consistent with the corporate commitment to continual improvement, the system is subject to ongoing development where opportunities for increased efficiency and effectiveness can be demonstrated. The adoption of new technologies is one such aspect of continual improvement.

Once again, the active participation and engagement of staff throughout the audit contributed to the effectiveness of this assessment.

The auditors would like to thank Forestry Tasmania for the preparation and planning that preceded the audit and the cooperation of all staff involved.

Defined forest area statement

The defined forest area consists of hardwood plantations, softwood plantations, wet eucalypt forests, dry eucalypt forests, blackwood forests and rainforest. Maps of the defined forest area are available to the public via Forestry Tasmania’s website.

Defined forest area (in hectares):	813,281 ha
Advised to AFS Limited on:	12 April 2016
Certificate expires on:	30 June 2018

Report prepared by:

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<i>Name of person who prepared this report</i>	<i>Position</i>

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