

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:	12-16 December 2016
Standard:	AS4708:2013	Auditors:	Ross Garsden and Gerard Moore
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). The audit focussed on the effectiveness of the risk management framework within the organisation and included an inspection of the Brighton Rail Hub with respect to Chain of Custody processes.</p> <p>The audit identified a number of key strengths in the FT management system. These are summarised as follows:</p> <p>With respect to forest management planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FPP Planning process • The effectiveness of regeneration activities – planning, execution, monitoring processes • Identification of biodiversity values – especially threatened species management • Forest hygiene practices – in particular weed management and phytophthora • Biodiversity and Landscape Context Planning process – development, bird monitoring sites • Forest monitoring processes – e.g. ARC report, recolonization and edge effects • Threatened species management e.g. Swift parrot – agreed management approach award <p>With respect to community and stakeholder engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apiary management – 3-Year planning process, modified burn plan, access • Updating guidelines – e.g. apiary management

- Flood response – Tayatea Bridge reconstruction and Caroline Creek restoration works
 - Fire response – collaboration with other agencies, effectiveness of rehabilitation
- With respect to contractor management:
- Contractors – safety awareness and fatigue management, haulage routes, NHV requirements, training
 - Monitoring of contractors
 - Quarry management – updating information, communications
- With respect to chain of custody requirements:
- Chain of custody processes – Brighton Rail Hub
 - Electronic Docketing System
- With respect to strategic planning and monitoring:
- Business Improvement Planning process (20 projects) – effective linkage with Yellow Book
 - Quality Standards – highly effective, ongoing review and improvement of process
 - New technology development – drone harvest area assessment, product recovery, rationalisation of yield estimates.

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) as at 30 June 2015:	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>

END OF REPORT