

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
Client name:	Forest Products Commission	Certificate #:	AFS 709544
Client address	233 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000	Website:	fpc.wa.gov.au
Audit type:	Recertification	Audit date:	November 2022
Standards:	AS4708:2013 and AS4708:2021	Auditor/s:	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 processes involved in the management of native forests and plantations in Western Australia including: the planning and supervision of harvesting operations; the transport, processing and sale of forest products; the development and maintenance of associated infrastructure; and post-harvest re-establishment activities.

Executive summary:
<p>This report presents the findings of a recertification assessment of the forest management system operated by the Western Australian Forest Products Commission with respect to conformance with the requirements of AS4708:2013 and AS4708:2021.</p> <p>The audit was conducted on-site, with some follow-up work off-site including provision of further documents and records.</p> <p>The audit included corporate processes conducted from the Head Office in Perth and Bunbury Office, as well as a range of forest operations conducted from Manjimup, Nannup, Harvey and Kalgoorlie. The on-site component focused on the management of forest operations and associated activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment, management and harvest of pine plantations • Regeneration of native forest (karri) • Mine-site rehabilitation and regeneration including thinning trials • Management of specialty timber sales (Harvey Log Yard) • Nursery Management (Manjimup) • Ecological thinning trials • Identification and protection of threatened species • Harvest operations in jarrah forest • Roading operations in karri and jarrah forests • Final harvest and remediation of Yanchep pine plantations prior to handback • Operation of the Wescorp sandalwood processing facility <p>The Defined Forest Area has not changed significantly since the previous assessment.</p>

The audit included direct engagement with DBCA, (the regulator), and confirmed the organisation’s commitment to continual improvement in its strategic management; operational performance; and the systems that support the business. DBCA confirmed the publication of the End of Term Report for the 2014-2023 Forest Management Plan which has now been released publicly. The report notes a very high level of conformance with the requirements.

Staff resilience was observed as a strength of the organisation.

FPC has made progress with its Climate Change Adaptation Plan and has resourced the Policy team to progress this significant body of work. The organisation is also in the process of engaging a consultant to assist with the Climate Adaptation Plan and developing the carbon account. This is all linked to the Plantation expansion program and reducing the organisation’s carbon footprint. This is noted as a significant improvement.

The organisation has responded positively to the opportunities for improvement noted in the previous report. The minor non-conformance identified in the previous report in relation to chain of responsibility has been addressed and this matter is now closed.

No non-conformances were identified during this assessment; however, the report notes several opportunities for improvement.

The audit has determined that the organisation continues to meet the requirements of AS 4708:2013 and AS4708:2021. Accordingly, the report includes a recommendation for recertification to the nominated Standard/s.

The auditors would like to acknowledge the cooperation, professionalism and constructive engagement of all staff involved in the planning and conduct of this audit. This contributed significantly to the overall effectiveness of the assessment process.

Defined forest area statement	
The DFA incorporates the following FMUs:	
The DFA comprises the following forest management units located in Western Australia: Northern and southern jarrah; Karri forests; Softwood plantations; sandalwood plantations and native sandalwood; and mixed eucalypt plantations.	
Defined forest area (in hectares):	9,816,383 ha
Advised to Responsible Wood on:	27 February 2023
Certificate expires on:	29 June 2025

Report prepared by:	
Ross Garsden	Lead Auditor – Forest Management Systems
<i>Name of person who prepared this report</i>	<i>Position</i>

END OF REPORT