

| Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report | | | |
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| Client name: | Forest Products Commission | Certificate #: | AFS 709544 |
| Client address | Level 7, 233 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, WA., 6000. | Website: | fpc.wa.gov.au |
| Audit type: | Surveillance | Audit date: | 14-26.08.2023 |
| Standards: | AS/NZS4708:2021 | Auditor: | 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: | | | |

This report describes findings from a Surveillance Audit of the Forest Products Commission (FPC) Western Australia management system against the requirements of the Australian Standard AS/NZS4708:2021 Sustainable forest management.

The audit was conducted concurrently with a Surveillance audit against ISO14001:2015 Environment management systems, on-site between 14.08-25.08.2023, at FPC's Head Office in Perth, Sandalwood operations in the Kalgoorlie area (including the Kalgoorlie Office and Depot site), Alcoa Huntly Minesite rehabilitation, Saddleback South 42 Minesite harvest clearing, Ecological thinning at Gordon and Beaton, Pine plantation harvesting and Pine resource expansion projects including Land acquisition, and Production operations at Albany.

Field operation sites in these areas and supporting infrastructure were inspected. Some tasks including follow-up and reporting, were completed off-site.

The audit met BSI Group ANZ objectives and confirmed FPC has continued to develop, implement and maintain its management system to comply with requirements of the Standards at the sites assessed, and recommends Certification to the Standard be continued.

FPC Staff numbers are 169.

Scope of certification is unchanged for AS/NZS4708:2021:

'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'.

FPC website comments the organisation is 'responsible for the sustainable management and development of Western Australia's forest products industry, using plantation, sandalwood and native forest products on land owned or leased by the State'.

While the Scope of certification remains the same, and the FPC website comments on the organisation's traditional approach to forest management, FPC reported potential, significant changes to its traditional activities, products and services that could affect these statements.

It's been a different audit to reflect the organisation's transition from traditional Jarrah and Karri harvesting operations producing sawlog and veneer log products for its manufacturing customers, to Ecological thinning in Karri and Jarrah, and planning to significantly expand the organisation's *Pinus radiata* resource. WA Government's Environment Protection Authority is due to release its Forest Management Plan on 01.01.2024. It will be important that outcomes in this plan including changes to FPC's traditional operations, are considered in planning for the next audit.

FPC Director Operations, provided an update to FPC's business operations that could be summarised as 'there's a lot happening, and lots of change'.

- FPC has embarked on a plan to increase its Pine plantation resource.
- Sandalwood: FPC has increased production capacity through Aboriginal contractors and Dreaming Contracts.
- Change in the Native forest arena: WA Government has stopped traditional harvesting operations in Jarrah and Karri forest and implemented alternate operations. FPC's future in Native forest includes Thinning for forest health in Karri and Jarrah forests.

- Softwood: FPC has Harvesting and Haulage operations in forest areas that provide foraging habitat to the endangered Carnaby’s cockatoo and there may be some changes to how FPC conducts operations in these areas.

Key strengths

- FPC has long established and well understood management system processes.

Significant improvements

- Climate change, Carbon accounting, Carbon Softwood program commenced.
- FPC engaged a consultant to conduct a Gap analysis of the organisation’s safety management system, benchmarked against ISO45001:2018 and Work Health Safety Act 2020.

Non-conformances identified in this assessment

NC01:

FPC’s approach to documenting, managing and closing out Stakeholder complaints is not effective.

Opportunities for Improvement are described in the report and can be considered as ways of improving FPC risk management system outcomes.

Thank-you to all FPC staff involved in the audit, in particular the Senior Co-ordinator, Forest Management Systems for her set-up of Head Office and field site assessment processes including management of documents and records, and for arranging for FPC field staff to be available for interview. This audit posed some additional challenges including:

- a visit to the organisation’s Sandalwood Kalgoorlie operations.
- a visit to Alcoa’s mining and site rehabilitation activities that included Bunnings staff.
- A visit to Albany and its operations, as well as Kalgoorlie and Alcoa.
- an itinerary that included new types of FPC activities.

All of these were organised in an effective and professional way.

Defined forest area statement

The DFA incorporates the following FMUs:

The DFA comprises 5 forest management units located in the south-west of Western Australia: these are described as Northern Jarrah; Southern Jarrah; Karri forests; Softwood plantations; and Mixed eucalypt plantations.

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| Defined forest area (in hectares): | 9,816,383ha |
| Advised to AFS Limited on: | 27.02.2023 |
| Certificate expires on: | 29.06.2025 |

Report prepared by:

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| Gerard Moore | Lead Auditor – Forest Management Systems |
| <i>Name of person who prepared this report</i> | <i>Position</i> |

END OF REPORT