

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
<b>Client name:</b>	Forest Products Commission	<b>Certificate #:</b>	AFS 709544
<b>Client address</b>	Level 7, 233 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, WA., 6000.	<b>Website:</b>	fpc.wa.gov.au
<b>Audit type:</b>	Surveillance	<b>Audit date:</b>	02-10.12.2024
<b>Standards:</b>	AS/NZS4708:2021	<b>Auditor:</b>	Gerard Moore
<p><b>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.</b></p>			
<b>Scope of certification:</b>			
<p>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.</p>			
<b>Executive summary:</b>			

This report describes findings from a Surveillance Assessment of the Forest Products Commission (FPC) Western Australia forest management system (FMS) against the requirements of the Australian Standard AS/NZS4708:2021 Sustainable forest management. Previously FPC was certified to the ISO14001:2015 Standard Environmental management systems: however, the organisation has withdrawn from this certification essentially because AS/NZS4708:2021 includes ISO14001:2015 requirements in Elements 4-10.

The Surveillance Assessment was conducted concurrently with a Surveillance assessment of FPC's management system against the requirements of the PEFC2002:2020 Standard, Chain of Custody of Forest and Tree Base Products - Requirements management systems. Outcomes from this assessment are reported separately.

The audit was conducted on-site between 02-06.12.2024, at FPC's Head Office in Perth, regional offices at Bunbury and Manjimup, and these field operation sites: Ecological thinning at Gordon Jarrah and Channybearup Karri, Pine fire salvage and thinning planning at Dombakup, the Manjimup Nursery and depot operations, Pine plantation harvesting operations at Ferndale and Maidment, and Pine plantation resource expansion project at McAlinden 1. The audit also visited the Wescorp facility at Canning Vale to review Wild Sandalwood processes.

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 Standards AS/NZS4708:2021 be continued.

FPC Staff numbers are 165.

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'.

#### *Key strengths*

- Strong management team commitment to the FMS and improvement in processes and outcomes.

#### *Significant improvements*

- Forest Management Plan, 2024-2033.
- FPC Procedure 158 - Remnant vegetation management in plantations, 10.2024, v01.
- FPC Softwood Plantation Management Framework, 11.2024, v01
- FPC strategic risk 'climate change' and the impact potential for FPC to operate in a climate with less water.
- Drought proofing *Pinus radiata* plantations through early thinning and final harvest operations.
- Remote sensing processes, including for the assessment of forest health.
- Plantation establishment expansion program, continuing.
- Defined Forest Area App.

*Opportunities for improvement*

- Ensuring action plans for addressing and closing Non-conformances are implemented more quickly.
- Ensuring all 'blank boxes' are used.

*Non-conformances identified in this assessment*

- Evaluation of compliance
- Non-conformity and Corrective action
- Plantation establishment processes, McAlinden1

I want to thank all FPC Staff and Contractors involved in this audit, for their openness and transparency in responding to my questions.

**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.

<b>Defined forest area (in hectares):</b>	9,674,612ha
<b>Advised to AFS Limited on:</b>	11.11.2024
<b>Certificate expires on:</b>	29.06.2025

**Report prepared by:**

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