

Policy

Title	Forest Management Policy	Version	16
Policy No.	P 2025/12	Effective date	8/10/2025

Acknowledgment of Country

Forestry Corporation of NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land where we live and work, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future. We recognise and honour the culture, knowledge, and enduring connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country.

1. PURPOSE

Forestry Corporation manages State forests and other land to produce range of products, services and environmental, community and cultural benefits in accordance with the objectives of the *Forestry Act 2012*. The long-term sustainability of Forestry Corporation's managed forests underpins management decisions. The purpose of this policy is to guide the sustainable management of State forests and other lands, ensuring ecological integrity while supporting social, cultural, and economic values.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all forest management activities undertaken by Forestry Corporation of NSW across the land it manages, including State forests and other tenures. Forest management activities include planning, operations, monitoring, and continuous improvement processes that support the sustainable production of forest products and the protection of environmental, cultural, and community values. The policy applies to all employees, contractors, and third parties engaged in forest management and is implemented through the Forest Management System certified to AS/NZS 4708:2021.

3. POLICY

Forestry Corporation's management will:

- Maintain ecological integrity while achieving environmentally, socially, culturally, and economically responsible outcomes
- Maintain or improve the productive capacity of managed forests
- Identify and mitigate risks to forests, including those arising from climate change, bushfire, and biosecurity threats
- Protect and enhance forest values, including air quality, water resources, soil health, native flora and fauna, and cultural heritage

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Forestry Corporation is committed to:

- Implementing a long-term, systematic approach consistent with ecologically sustainable forest management principles through a certified Forest Management System
- Embedding processes for continual improvement and adaptive management
- Complying with all applicable laws, regulations, contractual, and other obligations
- Providing adequate, trained resources to achieve management objectives
- Ensuring employees, suppliers, and contractors:
 - Understand their responsibilities under the Forest Management System
 - Apply forest management requirements effectively in their work
- Maintaining and testing systems for incident and emergency management to protect life, property, community assets, and forest values
- Regularly monitoring, auditing, reviewing, and publicly reporting on performance

Forestry Corporation recognises the positive contribution of stakeholders and creates opportunities for engagement to understand their needs and expectations, informing decisions about forest management.

Forest management activities stemming from this policy are summarised in the Forest Management Plans.

This policy, along with the Forest Management Plans, associated reports and other elements of the Forest Management System is publicly available.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Role	Responsibility
Board	• Endorse the Forest Management Policy • Ensure strategic oversight of its implementation
CEO	• Support the principles of the Forest Management Policy • Ensure resourcing for effective implementation • Approval of policy
Managers and Supervisors	• ensure compliance with this Policy • communicate expectations to staff and contractors • Manage compliance with their team/area
FMS Coordinator/ Specialist	• Report on Forest Management System performance against Standard criteria • Coordinate the implementation
All staff	• Be aware of, and understand, this Policy and participate in relevant training and improvement initiatives • Report incidents
Contractors, Consultants and Volunteers	• Comply with relevant forest management requirements and operate in alignment with the Policy and Forest Management System.

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5. LEGISLATION AND OTHER COMPLIANCE OBLIGATIONS

- *Forestry Act 2012*
- Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management AS/NZS 4708:2021

6. RELATED POLICIES

- Stakeholder Engagement Policy
- Compliance Policy
- Training and Development Policy
- Fire Management Policy

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Forest Management System Guides (SPD and HFD)
- Responsible Wood Scope and Defined Forest Area Procedure
- Forest Management Plans
- Responsible Wood Standard (AS/NZS 4708:2021)

8. REVISION HISTORY

Version	Author	Summary of changes	Approver	Approval date
15	Information Systems and Framework Manager	Updated for clarity. Added related documents. Removed ISO 14001-specific commitment. Included reference to ecologically sustainable forest management. Broadened fifth dot point to reference the Forest Management System.	Anshul Chaudhary (CEO)	1/8/2024
16	Information Systems and Framework Manager	Updated for clarity. Transferred to new template. Removed redundant points regarding forest values and use of genetically modified material. Added roles and responsibilities and scope, and incident management commitment.	Anshul Chaudhary (CEO)	8/10/2025

For previous document versions, refer to Content Manager

9. CONTACT OFFICER

Information Systems and Frameworks Manager (ISFM)

10. EXECUTIVE ENDORSEMENT



Anshul Chaudhary
Chief Executive Officer



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