

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
Client name:	Forestry Corporation of NSW (Softwood Plantations Division)	Certificate #:	AFS 640602
Client address	121-123 Oratava Ave West Pennant Hills NSW 2120	Website:	forestrycorporation.com.au
Audit type:	Routine Surveillance	Audit date:	3 Sept – 24 October 2018
Standard:	AS4708:2013 and ISO 14001:2015	Auditors:	Ross Garsden and Mick Berry
<p>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.</p>			

Scope of certification:
<p>Activities associated with the sustainable management of softwood plantations within NSW State forests. This includes the production and sale of forest products; the management of non-productive areas for conservation values; the development and maintenance of forest infrastructure; management of planned and un-planned fires; and the provision of visitor facilities, forest permits and access for recreation activities.</p>

Executive summary:
<p>This report presents the findings from a recertification assessment of the Forestry Corporation of NSW - Softwood Plantations Division (SPD) with respect to compliance with the requirements of the nominated Standards. The audit included an assessment of activities and operations conducted from Tumut and Bombala in Snowy Region and Grafton and Bathurst in Northern Region. The audit included an assessment of a range of corporate responsibilities undertaken at the organisation's Head Office at West Pennant Hills in addition to verification of the processes associated with recent acquisitions near Oberon.</p> <p>The audit was undertaken in conjunction with an assessment of compliance with ISO14001:2015. The requirements of ISO14001 support many of the requirements of AS4708. Likewise, the assessment coincided with an assessment of FCNSW' Hardwood Forests Division (HFD). This report should be read in conjunction with the HFD report, as both Divisions share a number of common corporate functions. Any findings in relation to corporate functions are noted in the relevant Division Report.</p> <p>The audit confirmed the SPD's commitment to continual improvement in both its operational performance and the systems that support the business.</p> <p>System strengths identified during the assessment included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency, accuracy and transparency of performance monitoring and reporting e.g. Sustainability Reporting – through Power BI • Cooperation and collaboration with other agencies with respect to fire season preparedness and response • Functionality of FMS Navigator for improved access to system documentation and procedures • Functionality of FCMapApp with real-time recording and notification and scope for remote interrogation, monitoring and analysis across a range of tasks e.g. Forest Health Monitoring, Fire and Pest Animal Management. <p>Significant improvements identified during this assessment included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanisms for providing public access to information.

- Strengthened participation in collaborative arrangements in relation to tree breeding programs and potential improvements in quality and productivity.
- Participation in Land Management Forum and Telco Authority with respect to the Government Radio Network
- Implementation of Telematics system for resource tracking, monitoring vehicle movements and incidents.
- Improved capacity for utilisation of LiDAR information for operational efficiency
- Improvements in plant pest reporting and recording through better utilisation of FC Mapping App
- Demonstrating leadership with respect to log truck safety and in particular contractor requirements with respect to haulage contracts and safety requirements – benchmarking standards, management and monitoring of vehicle movements and overloads.

The organisation has responded positively to the minor non-conformances identified in the previous report and these are now closed. Four minor non-conformances were identified during this assessment in relation to:

- Fire planning documentation
- Operational control – depot management
- Documentation and records
- Operational control – protection of streamside reserves

The full report provides details of these as well as several opportunities for improvement which were identified during the assessment. BSI has received and accepted action plans to address these non-conformances.

The auditors would like to acknowledge the cooperation and constructive engagement of all staff involved in the planning and conduct of this audit. Once again, FCNSW staff demonstrated professionalism and competence and a willingness to engage and support the audit. This contributed significantly to the overall effectiveness of the assessment process.

BSI has determined that the organisation continues to meet the requirements of AS 4708:2013 and ISO 14001:2015, and re-certification the nominated Standards is recommended.

Defined forest area statement

Softwood Plantations Division incorporates five FMUs in two Operational Regions:

Snowy Region – Bombala MA and Tumut MA

Northern Region – Bathurst MA, Walcha MA and Grafton MA

Defined forest area (in hectares):

387,721 ha

Advised to AFS Limited on:

18 October 2018

Certificate expires on:

31 December 2021

Report prepared by:

Ross Garsden

Technical Specialist – Forest Management

Name of person who prepared this report

Position

END OF REPORT