

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report

Client name:	Forestry Corporation of NSW – Hardwood Forests Division	Certificate #:	AFS 604224
Client address	121-123 Oratava Ave West Pennant Hills NSW 2125	Website:	forestrycorporation.com.au
Audit type:	Surveillance	Audit date:	02.11-01.12.2023
Standard:	AS/NZS4708:2021	Auditors:	Gerard Moore

This document provides a summary of the findings contained in a report to Forestry Corporation with respect to the implementation of this client's management system as determined during an audit conducted by BSI Group ANZ.

Scope of certification:

Activities associated with the sustainable management of native forests and hardwood 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.

The Defined forest area incorporates the following Forest Management Units: South coast hardwoods; Southern tablelands hardwoods; Cypress forests in western NSW; Redgum forests in the Riverina; Northern Coastal hardwoods; Northern Tablelands hardwoods and Northern hardwood plantations.

Executive summary:

This report describes outcomes from a Surveillance Audit of the Forestry Corporation of New South Wales – Hardwood Forest Division (FCNSW HFD) management system against the requirements of the Australian Standard AS4708:2021 (the Standard). The audit was conducted remotely between 02-03.11.2023 and on 01.12.2023, at FCNSW's Head Office, West Pennant Hills, and onsite between 06-10.11.2023 at HFD Regional Offices at Eden and Bateman's Bay, and field operation sites in these areas and supporting infrastructure at the Bateman's Bay Depot.

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

Stakeholders provide input into the management of forests by FCNSW and their feedback has been included into the assessment findings.

Key Strengths of the management system include:

- FCNSW Strategy 2025 rolled out and being implemented.
- Consistent approach to risk analysis in forest operations.
- Continuing commitment from FCNSW Executive management team for the management system.
- Expanding community and business engagement, for example, the Narooma Mountain Bike project.
- QAA processes including Dashboard presentations.

Notable improvements or strengths of the forest management system include:

- Development and further implementation of the FCNSW Climate change mitigation strategy.
- Improved reporting, FlintPro

Other key initiatives include:

- IFA Forestry Australia support and advocacy
- Social License to Operate
- Tell Our Story, Rebuilding Trust, Champion our People
- Resilience & Recovery, opportunities
- Forest Learning, an initiative of FWPA, focus is on telling good stories about forestry, information packages.

Non-conformances identified in this assessment

Non-conformances raised at previous audits have been closed, and no new Non-conformances have been found at this audit.

Opportunities for improvement are identified in the body of this report.

The Assessor would like to acknowledge the cooperation and constructive engagement of all staff involved in this assessment.

Defined forest area statement

Hardwood Forests Division incorporates the following FMUs

FMU 1 – South Coast hardwoods
 FMU 2 – Southern Tablelands hardwoods
 FMU 3 – Cypress forests
 FMU 4 – Redgum forests
 FMU 5 – Northern Coastal hardwoods
 FMU 6 – Northern Tablelands hardwoods
 FMU 7 – Northern hardwood plantations

Defined forest area (in hectares):	1,760,890 ha
Advised to AFS Limited on:	3.11.2023
Certificate expires on:	31.12.2024

Report prepared by:

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

END OF REPORT