



global-mark



Global-Mark Pty Ltd

Summary Report

Sustainable Forest Management



**Responsible
Wood** RW/1-44-2

This document is external



1 Audit details

1.1 Client Name

Forestry SA.

1.2 Business address of the client

Corporate HQ Kuitpo Forest offices and depot, 495 Brookman Road, Meadows, SA, 5201.

1.3 Names of review team members and audit team leader

Jonathan Tibbits, Wayne Tibbits.

1.4 Dates of review

Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th, and Thursday 18th September 2025.

1.5 Purpose and the scope of this audit

1.5.1 Type of review

Stage 2 certification Surveillance post certification; Re-certification; Follow up/ special or transition
 Remote MD4

1.5.2 Forest sites visited to assess

All these sites were included in the field component of the audit. New sites and randomly select sites are indicated.

Sites visited:

1. Kuitpo Forest, Christmas Hill locality, clearfall, source 52148, contractor Lico, no operations on day of visit due to mechanical issues.
2. Kuitpo Forest, Nichol Road locality, source 73732, contractor Lico, suspended operation due to wet soils. **Part of new set of sites.**
3. Kuitpo Forest, Bells Gully locality, source 35448, contractor Michael Winkel met on site, no operations on day of visit due to mechanical issues.
4. Mount Crawford Forest, Watts Gully, event 230323.
5. Mount Crawford Forest, Bennett's quarry on SA Water land, event 040394, live, active gravel loading and carting by contractor Ridgeline.
6. Mount Crawford Forest, Bennetts inactive site with *Pinus canariensis*.
7. Mount Crawford Forest, Old Kersbrook, compartment 127, recently completed active site of competition control by cutting wattle or wild pine then painting cut stump with 50/50 mixture glyphosate/water, contractor Restore.
8. Kuitpo Forest, Chookarloo campground, inspect the bitumen seal applied to its entrance off Brookman Road and the new gates at exit of loop to camping sites. **Randomly selected site.**
9. Charcoal Pits, active clearfall operation, contractor Lico, Event No 800894.
10. Forbes T1, active thinning operation (paused due to wet conditions), Event No 800902.
11. Goat Farm T1, completed thinning operation, Event No 800867.
12. Forties T3, active thinning operation, contractor Lico, Event No 800901.

1.5.3 Other sites visited and assessed

The depots at Kuitpo and Mount Crawford.

1.5.4 Sustainability Criteria in scope of this audit

All sections were assessed.

2 Global-Mark summary of main findings

Positive comments with respect to the sustainable forest management system are as follows:

- Several small areas termed “legacy blocks” characterised by more difficult features such as steepness, age/size, access, are gradually being harvested.
- The harvest contractor Winkel demonstrated a very high level of operational control and emergency management related to several sustainability requirements, including ecosystem health [machine hygiene], biodiversity [reinstating fallen markers identifying threatened plant species], soil protection [machine slewing minimised in shovel harvest], health/safety [comprehensive induction, hazard identification and control].
- Interviews by telephone were held with two stakeholders. Both gave positive feedback on the level of stakeholder engagement and interaction from ForestrySA. We note that FSA engages as an active member of a committee group where they sit as a land agent and are active. They also were considered good to deal with, providing support for activities where people with disability can be involved.

Improvement matters with respect to the sustainable forest management system are as follows:

- Lack of documented records, and evidence of corrective and preventative action, confirming regular chemical store inspections and follow-up of previously identified deficiencies.
- Internal audit schedule does not provide full coverage of the Standard or internal FMS processes and there is limited verification of compliance register auditing.
- No evidence of a formal, comprehensive management review in the past 12 months.
- Large volume of core FMS documents in “Review Due” or “Under Review” status within the PSMS library.

3 Details of the defined forest area

3.1 Description of forest management units and the geographic location of defined forest area

This remains unchanged. There are two basic forest management units, being natural forest areas managed for ecosystem services, and exotic pine plantations managed for wood production, although some ecosystem services, such as recreation and mountain bike riding happen in the plantations.

3.2 Information on where further details of the defined forest area may be accessed

Further details can be found online here: <https://www.forestry.sa.gov.au/forest-management/>

3.3 The actual size of the defined forest area

The Defined Forest Area managed by ForestrySA on behalf of the South Australian Government comprises Proclaimed Forest Reserve, under the Forestry Act 1950 (SA). Figures are based on what is reported in the ForestrySA Annual Report. The area is 20,204 hectares as reported on the Responsible Wood website.

4 Additional information

4.1 Any applicable qualifications for scale and intensity

ForestrySA has a small to medium scale in relation to the # operations in its pine plantation FMU, some seasonality restrictions, and relatively narrow geographic spread. For its ecosystem services its scale is similar though likely to be higher given at peak periods of visitor activity. Intensity is high in relation to the risks and/or benefits of its impacts such as chemical use, aerial activities, mechanical operations, fire control.

Review team declaration:

We confirm that for the purpose of this review:

- We did not have any conflict of interest with and are fully independent from the company listed above.
- The review team had sufficient resources, and competences to complete its review and reach its conclusions summarised here.
- We had the appropriate credentials to perform this review in accordance with Global-Mark Pty Ltd and applicable accreditation requirements.

Comment and disclaimer on this report:

- This summary report does not and should not be seen as advice. Please consult a qualified advisor or consultant for advice.
- Due to the sampling nature of third party business reviews, the time available and samples size, some issues, nonconformance, non-compliances or improvements might not have been identified in the present

audit summarised reported. This does not imply that these issues do not exist or are in conformance or compliance. Employees, management, and other stakeholders of the organization need to and are responsible for, continuously identifying and taking necessary controls to ensure continued conformance with the standard.

- Readers of this report should make judgement taking the above into account.
- The summary report has been prepared for the abovementioned client/ business to make publicly available without request.

End of summary report

Document Information and Revision History of Template

Document Number & Name	AS 4708 / NZS 4708 Summary Report
Original Author(s)	Wayne Tibbits

Revision	Date	Author(s)	Notes
0	5 th July 2019	Dr W. Tibbits	Initial release in new format. Excludes personal information of confidential nature from content.
1	17 th March 2023	Dr W. Tibbits	Revised release for passing on to Program Manager to use for accreditation to AS/NZS 4708: 2021.
2	30/7/23	Emily Silberberg	Revised after JASANZ finding during transition to AS/NZS 4708: 2021.
3	27 th August 2024	Dr W. Tibbits	New format to more clearly align to Scheme Rules, simplify the summary, and report by section not tabular format.