

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
<b>Client name:</b>	Sustainable Timber Tasmania	<b>Certificate #</b>	AFS 603478
<b>Client address</b>	Bathurst St Hobart TAS 700	<b>Website:</b>	sttas.com.au
<b>Audit type:</b>	Recertification Assessment	<b>Report date:</b>	26 April – 4 May 2018
<b>Standard:</b>	AS4708:2013	<b>Auditors:</b>	Ross Garsden and Mick Berry
<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>			

Scope of certification:
<p>Activities associated with the sustainable management of Tasmania's Permanent Timber Production Zone land, as described in the organisation's Forest Management Plan, including the administration, planning and management of forests; and the harvest, transport and sale of forest products.</p>

Executive summary:
<p>This report presents the findings of a recertification assessment of Sustainable Timber Tasmania's (STT) Forest Management System (FMS) with respect to the requirements of AS4708:2013, the Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management. The audit was conducted concurrently with an assessment of the organisation's complementary Standards, ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems; and AS 4801:2001 Safety Management Systems. Findings in relation to ISO14001 and AS4708 have been incorporated into the structure of this report, where appropriate.</p> <p>The scope of the audit included the application and implementation of the centrally-managed system at the Hobart Head Office as well as the planning and execution of a range of forest management activities in both the Northern Region and Southern Region. New premises at Derwent Park and New Norfolk were visited in addition to existing offices and depots at various locations including Perth Office and Nursery, Camdale Office and Depot, Scottsdale Office, Mount Horror Fore Tower and Geeveston Office and Depot.</p> <p>The audit focussed on the effectiveness of the risk management framework within the organisation and in particular in relation to forest management activities.</p> <p>STT has responded positively to the findings in the previous report. The three minor non-conformances have been effectively addressed and are now closed. STT has also reviewed the suite of opportunities for improvement noted in the previous report and has developed a plan to address each as appropriate.</p> <p>This audit has identified two new minor non-conformances in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of resources; and</li> <li>• Management review</li> </ul> <p>A number of opportunities for improvement have been identified and these are detailed in the report.</p> <p>The management system is firmly integrated into the organization's business processes and the management team demonstrated a solid commitment to driving continual improvement across the business.</p>

Operational sites and activities assessed included:

- Plantation thinning and clearfall operations
- Re-establishment of native forests following harvesting activities
- Identification and protection of Significant Biodiversity Values
- Operation of Fire Towers

The audit identified a number of key strengths in the FT management system. These are summarised as follows:

- Internal audit processes are demonstrably effective
- Processes for ensuring adequacy of regeneration through the Quality Standards
- Biodiversity monitoring and Swift Parrot
- Access to information and adoption of mobile technology
- Seed management and variable retention

FT has demonstrated that its Forest Management System effectively incorporates the requirements of the respective Standards and that the system is supporting both staff and contractors in managing the various risks associated with the business. Consistent with the corporate commitment to continual improvement, the system is subject to ongoing development where opportunities for increased efficiency and effectiveness can be demonstrated. The adoption of new technologies, in particular the development and adoption of mobile data capture and recording technology is one such aspect of continual improvement.

Once again, the active participation and engagement of staff throughout the audit contributed to the effectiveness of this assessment. The auditors would like to thank Forestry Tasmania for the preparation and planning that preceded the audit and the cooperation of all staff involved.

**Defined forest area statement**

The defined forest area consists of six forest management units: hardwood plantations, softwood plantations, wet eucalypt forests, dry eucalypt forests, blackwood forests and rainforest.

<b>Defined forest area (in hectares) as at 30 June 2017:</b>	796,982 Ha
<b>Advised to AFS Limited on:</b>	16 April 2018
<b>Certificate expires on:</b>	30 June 2021

**Report prepared by:**

Ross Garsden	Technical Specialist – Forest Management
<i>Name of person who prepared this report</i>	<i>Position</i>

END OF REPORT