

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
Client name:	Pentarch Forestry Pty Ltd	Certificate #	AFS 605327
Client address	99 Coventry St Southbank Victoria 3006	Website:	pentarchforestry.com.au
Audit type:	Recertification	Audit dates:	22-25 January 2024
Standard/s:	AS/NZS4708:2021	Auditor:	Ross Garsden
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.			

Scope of certification:
Management of plantations and native forests within New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania and the marketing of forest products.

Executive summary:
<p>This report presents the findings of a recertification and migration assessment of Pentarch Forestry with respect to conformance with the requirements of AS/NZS 4708:2021. The audit was conducted on-site with some preliminary work conducted remotely.</p> <p>The audit included an assessment of forest management activities associated with native forests and hardwood plantations in southern NSW and north-eastern Victoria.</p> <p>For the remote component, the audit employed Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), including Microsoft Teams for interviews and real-time screen sharing, as well as mobile phone and email for file sharing and general communications. All system documentation and records were readily accessible throughout the assessment and key staff were available as required. There were no connectivity issues that adversely impacted the conduct of the audit, and the objectives were achieved.</p> <p>Key strengths of the business and its management system affirmed again during this audit included the effectiveness of internal audit and management review arrangements, as well as processes for identification and management of risks.</p> <p>Significant improvements were noted in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of drones for herbicide application • Use of organic fertiliser on some of the plantation estate rather than synthetic fertilisers • Development of pre-planning checklist to ensure all criteria are assessed before any forest activity occurs. <p>There were no non-conformances requiring closure from the previous assessment. New non-conformances have been identified in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous engagement; • Fuel reduction in native forest assets; • Emergency testing procedures; and • Estimates of carbon storage in the native forest assets. <p>The assessment also considered the actions taken in relation to the opportunities for improvement noted in the previous report. The report includes a brief description of the actions taken, consistent with the company's commitment to continual improvement.</p> <p>This audit identified a number of opportunities for improvement which are detailed in the full report. Pentarch Forestry continues to improve the effectiveness of its forest management system and demonstrate its progress towards meeting the requirements of AS/NZS 4708:2021.</p> <p>The audit has verified that Pentarch Forestry continues to operate a forest management system in conformance with the requirements of AS/NZS 4708:2021 and a recommendation is made for migration to that Standard.</p> <p>The assessor would like to thank all staff for their constructive engagement and participation throughout this assessment.</p>

Defined forest area statement	
Pentarch's defined forest area consists of three forest management units: namely, mainland Eucalypt plantations, mainland native forests and Tasmanian eucalypt plantations.	
Defined forest area (in hectares): as at 30 June 2023	6,454 hectares
Advised to AFS Limited on:	7 July 2023
Certificate expires on:	31 May 2024

Report prepared by:	
Ross Garsden	Technical Specialist - Forestry
<i>Name of person who prepared this report</i>	<i>Position</i>
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