

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:	Routine surveillance	Audit dates:	8-10 April 2025
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 routine surveillance assessment of Pentarch Forestry with respect to conformance with the requirements of AS/NZS 4708:2021. The audit was conducted on-site at Eden, NSW and included assessment of hardwood and softwood plantations and native forests in NSW and Victoria.</p> <p>There is no significant change to the Defined Forest Area. Pentarch Forestry has considered the potential impacts of climate change of its forestry assets.</p> <p>This audit assessed the effectiveness of key system processes including internal audit, management review and management of non-conformances. It also included assessment of the processes for development and achievement of forest management objectives including identification of risks and opportunities and the relationship between objectives and identified risks and opportunities.</p> <p>Field assessments included establishment processes, forest health assessment, management of soil and water values, biodiversity values, cultural heritage, planned fire and emergency preparedness and testing.</p> <p>The audit has verified the effectiveness of internal audit and management review processes. The audit also verified the competence of the staff involved in forest management, particularly with respect to planning and supervision of forest management activities.</p> <p>There were no active harvesting operations, silvicultural activities or establishment operations at the time of the assessment.</p> <p><i>Sites / activities assessed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reeds – native forest • Ingram complex – hardwood plantation and native forest: 2024 planting, 6-yo plantation, 12 yo thinning operation, fire access trail maintenance, soil and water values and native forest management • Baelcoola softwood plantation and native forest – operational planning and site preparation, soil and water values (erosion event), native vegetation (natural capital) • Internal audit, management review and non-conformance management • Objectives and targets <p><i>Key strengths</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competence and professionalism of field staff – attention to detail

Significant improvements noted in this assessment

- Use of Fulcrum
- Indigenous engagement
- Processes for management of planned burns, particularly with respect to neighbour engagement.

Non-conformances identified in this assessment

- Non-conformance identification and recording
- Translation of data from pre-planning checklist to operations plan and plan approval
- Biodiversity monitoring

Opportunities for improvement from this assessment

- Connectivity between the identified risks and opportunities and the organisation’s objectives and targets.
- More timely endorsement of the review process
- Clarification of procedures for identifying and recording non-conformances

There were four minor non-conformances identified in the previous assessment. Two of these are now closed. While progress is noted in relation to the other two, further work is required and consequently these remain open.

This audit identified several opportunities for improvement which are detailed in the full report.

The audit has verified that Pentarch Forestry continues to operate a forest management system in conformance with the requirements of AS/NZS 4708:2021, subject to the rectification of the minor non-conformities noted in this report. Accordingly, the report includes a recommendation for continued certification to the nominated Standard.

I would like to thank all staff for their constructive engagement and participation throughout this assessment.

Defined forest area statement

Pentarch’s defined forest area consists of four forest management units: namely, mainland softwood and eucalypt plantations, mainland native forests and Tasmanian eucalypt plantations.

Defined forest area (in hectares): as at 30 June 2024	6,448 hectares
Advised to AFS Limited on:	1 July 2024
Certificate expires on:	31 May 2027

Report prepared by:

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

END OF REPORT