

Forest Management System – Summary Audit Report			
Client name:	DAF Forestry	Certificate #:	AFS 603520
Client address	275 George St, Brisbane 4000 QLD	Website:	daf.qld.gov.au
Audit type:	Recertification and Migration	Audit date:	08/10/2024 - 10/10/2024
Standard:	AS/NZS 4708:2021	Auditor:	Mick Berry
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:

Activities related to the supply of native forest products from within the Defined Forest Area. The Defined Forest Area consists of the following Forest Management Units: wet and dry sclerophyll forests in Queensland coastal areas; mixed cypress and hardwood forests in western Queensland; and dry sclerophyll forests in coastal and central areas of northern Queensland.

Executive summary:

This report presents the findings of the surveillance assessment of the Forest Management System (FMS) of DAF Forestry (DAF), a business unit of the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, against the requirements of the Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management AS/NZS4708:2021 (the Standard), conducted by BSI in October 2024.

The audit focused on system planning and implementation processes, with respect to DAF Forestry’s Forest Management System (FMS) and the requirements of the Standard at locations including Brisbane office as well as temporary operational sites in Northern QLD and Atherton Depot.

Stakeholder interactions are also considered as part of the assessment and in the context of the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the forest management system.

Elements of the Standard sampled as part of this assessment were: Systematic Management elements; Clause 11.3 Biodiversity and; Clause 11.5 Forest Productive Capacity

The audit objectives have been achieved and the certificate scope remains appropriate. The assessment concluded based on the results of this assessment that the organization does fulfil the standards and audit criteria and it is deemed that the forest management system continues to achieve its intended outcomes.

This assessment identified several positive strengths or improvements in the organisation’s forest management system including:

- Digital transformation of forestry systems projects proposed to replace and enhance existing systems.
- Implementation of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage engagement has started, and training delivered to staff.
- The enhancement of the processes to support forest harvesting planning and management of biodiversity values including Greater Glider protection measures.
- Enhancement of the non-conformance and corrective action processes including review of significant issues by the leadership team.
- Analysis of forest management system performance and improvement actions arising from the management review process.

Minor non-conformities identified as part of the last assessment which remain open but which progress has been demonstrated include:

- Clause 9.1.1 - Workshop inspections have not been completed 6 monthly as per DAF procedure, namely WHS Audits, inspections and management review procedure.
- Clause 11.7.2 - A risk assessment has not been undertaken for conducting forest operations in damaged forests such as by fire, wind, flood or drought to identify risks / hazards and controls.
- Clause 9.1.1 - The current processes for inspecting and monitoring of sale areas (i.e. SAI and SPI 99 inspections) within Cypress Forests and under a Level 4 Operator Select model have not translated into compliance by Contractor / Permittee with relevant THP relevant Code of practice.
- Clause 7.4.3 - A review of stakeholder engagement processes as part of OHP due diligence processes for sales areas visited confirmed that neighbours adjacent to the forest are not notified prior to the commencement of operations. It is noted that a Draft SOP Engagement for Forestry Stakeholders is under development.
- Clause 11.7.2 - Safe systems of work undertaking forest operations have not been determined for the Permittees and their workers. The DAF Forestry Site Safety Plan for forest operations states that the Permittee is required to comply with this Plan, however, the Plan does not identify all the risks / hazards and controls related to activities undertaken by the Permittee and their workers undertaking forest operations.

No new non-conformities have been identified as part of this assessment.

I would like to thank DAF Forestry staff for their support and assistance as part of this assessment.

Defined forest area statement:

The Defined Forest Area consists of the following Forest Management Units: wet and dry sclerophyll forests in Queensland coastal areas; mixed cypress and hardwood forests in western Queensland; and dry sclerophyll forests in coastal and central areas of northern Queensland.

Detailed maps of the DFA are publicly available on the Queensland Globe.

Defined forest area (in hectares):

2,987,937

Advised to AFS Limited on:

11 October 2024

Certificate expires on:

31 March 2027

Report prepared by:

Mick Berry

Lead Auditor – Forest Management Systems

Name of person who prepared this report

Position

END OF REPORT