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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

Private Forestry Services Queensland Incorporated

1.2 Business address of the client

8 Fraser Road Gympie, QLD 4570.

1.3 Names of review team members and audit team leader

Wayne Tibbits.

1.4 Dates of review

Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th, part of Thursday 14th November 2024.

1.5 Purpose and the scope of this audit

1.5.1 Type of review

Stage 2 certification Surveillance post certification; Re-certification; Special; Remote MD4

1.5.2 Forest sites visited to assess

Eagle Rock, 17 Mile Road, Seventeen Mile QLD
Urah View, 167 Shady Camp Road, Mt Urah QLD
Boomerang, Doughbuoy Road, Doughboy QLD

1.5.3 Other sites visited and assessed

There is a depot and workshop at the same location as office, but these were not assessed at this audit.

1.5.4 Sustainability Criteria in scope of this audit

All the seven criteria are commented on based on what was assessed in the field.

2 Global-Mark summary of main findings

The organisation Private Forestry Service Queensland, or as abbreviated PFSQ, is a forest manager with a strong and determined focus on sustainable management of private native forest. It determines site-specific silviculture and is willing to trial a range of activities to achieve intended outcomes. All audit findings were closed by early December.

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

1. Comprehensive engagement with landowner's representative Matt and a joint focus on sustainability issues.
2. There is an expansion of the defined forest area with the greenfield site for silviculture treatment at Urah View.
3. Careful attention to localised biodiversity matters, such as on-the-job identification with values such as native beehive and raptor nests, with their protection by relocation or exclusion from harvest respectively.
4. Keeping the options open for its forest products supplying a potential biomass market, such as at Doughbuoy where the harvest operation was segregating non-commercial bole wood parts of and tree crowns for possible use. No erosion or excessive soil disturbance.

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

1. More checking of information available on their website for being current and accurately informative.

3 Details of the defined forest area

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

The current main forest management unit is native vegetation dominated by species from the Family *Myrtaceae*. A second and much smaller forest management unit is native forest species plantation of 24.3 hectares, which is at Gundiah property. The geographic location extends from Bundaberg Regional Council in the north down to northern NSW. It includes areas in these councils in Queensland, Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, Lockyer Valley, and in NSW the council of Richmond Valley. The property not yet added to the defined forest area, Jacky Creek, is in Clarence Valley Council in NSW.

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

The website of PFSQ has information on its certification to Responsible Wood and maps of the defined forest area, at <https://www.pfsq.org.au/responsible-wood/>. There were five maps - SEQ DFA showing Gundiah Hub, Miva, Mt Urah, Gin Gin DFA showing Doughbuoy, Sunshine Coast DFA showing Burnside, Richmond Valley DFA showing Mount Marsh, and Gympie DFA showing same as SEQ DFA.

3.3 The actual size of the defined forest area

There are seven properties identified by PFSQ in its defined forest area. This includes the property Woocoo of 520 hectares that was the seventh property of Energy Queensland, which had been formally added by PFSQ to its defined forest area, but this was after the planning for this 2024 audit was completed. So, the current total area is 6,874 hectares, with the area considered at time of audit planning for sample being 6,354 hectares.

4 Additional information

4.1 Any applicable qualifications for scale and intensity

PFSQ is relatively small scale as it has a small # operations at any one time, which are almost exclusively in one FMU. Some activities are restricted with seasonality. Although there is a fair geographic spread, it is such that it does not result in a larger scale, with three of the properties very close together. Intensity is also relatively low with restricted and targeted chemical use, no aerial activities, limited mechanical operations of small rates of harvest and some chopper rolling, and fire at low intensity for hazard reduction.

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.