



global-mark



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# Global-Mark Pty Ltd

## Summary Report

### Sustainable Forest Management

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**Responsible  
Wood** RW/1-44-2

This document is external





	Comments
<b>Certification standard</b>	AS 4708:2013 - Group certification
<b>Client Name / Business name</b>	Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd - Group scheme It is important to note that this is a separate certificate to another AS4708 held by Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd.
<b>Business address of the client</b>	Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd, level 2, 14 Willis Street, Launceston, TAS 7250. 28 <sup>th</sup> = Group member 03, Mountdown Family Trust, 4 Fraser Street, New Town 7008. 29 <sup>th</sup> = Group member 01, Highland Forest Products, 255 Cuckoo Road, Cuckoo 7260
<b>Name of the Certification Body</b>	Global-Mark Pty Ltd
<b>Names of review team members:</b>	Wayne Tibbits
<b>Dates of review:</b>	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 on-site. 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> August contact stakeholders.
<b>Scope of activities within the scope of certification</b>	Group forest management managed by Reliance Forest Fibre. Three group members, two of whom supply products to Reliance Forest Fibre Bell Bay Chip Terminal and various other mills around Tasmania. The third member has a forest estate not being harvested yet.
<b>Type of review:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Stage 1 pre-certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Stage 2 certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Surveillance post certification; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Re-certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up or special audit
<b>Scope of the audit / review including sites visited</b>	Three active or recently active and two inactive field sites. The office of group manager at Reliance Forest Fibre Bell Bay in Launceston and that of two group members. All requirements of the standard.
<b>Global-Mark summary of the main findings</b>	<p><b>Audit criteria:</b> This one-person re-certification review over four days is the first re-certification after initial certification in 2017. It focused on all criteria related to stakeholder consultation, biodiversity, forest productive capacity, ecosystem health/ vitality, soils/water, carbon, culture, and social/economic values as well as the management aspects of the Forest Management System, including internal audits, corrective and preventive action, and management review processes. It included site visits assessing forest operations/conditions that spanned two full days in the field combined with visits to Group Members.</p> <p>There is a massive market downturn for forest products at the time of the audit. The group members have felt the impact.</p> <p><b>Stakeholder feedback:</b> This audit included successful consultation on the phone with a sample of three stakeholders.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They represented affected stakeholder type and interested stakeholder types. Their interests spanned three of the four values [economic, environmental and social, but not cultural]. Interviews were adjusted for the specific stakeholder depending upon their identified situation.</li> <li>2. We conducted surveys in the weeks after the audit. Key responses are summarised as follows:</li> <li>3. It is the Group Manager and some Group Members who were known by the stakeholders.</li> <li>4. Issues that these stakeholders viewed as important included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Increased focus on the forest as a whole rather than just on the tree crops.</li> <li>b. Consideration by forest manager to clearly identify contractor's associated with market turbulence and how this risk could potentially be.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. No stakeholder had any issue that would fit into the categories of complaint, dispute or grievance.</li> </ol> <p><b>Certification Body findings:</b> During this audit we closed both previous findings [one minor non-conformance and one observation] and also raised</p>



	Comments
	<p>several new findings [minor non-conformances and observations]. The client has presented and implemented a corrective action plan for all but three of the minor non-conformance matters. Prior to the expiry of the organisation's certificate they provided Global-Mark with corrective action plans for three outstanding minor nonconformance matters. Global-Mark assessed these and concluded that the forest manager has identified the root cause of the non-conformance and provided action to prevent recurrence.</p> <p><u>Certification scope:</u> Since the previous audit in May 2019, there has been one change, which is the address of the group manager.</p> <p><u>Positive implementation and effectiveness of the client's forest management system includes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Long-term commitment of group members, such as member 03 whose plantations have had not active operations in the three-years certificate cycle and yet remain in the DFA, growing after prior thinning in anticipation of future harvest.</li> <li>2. One group member engages a contractor who demonstrates equity in gender by having a female operator of their skidder.</li> </ol> <p><u>In terms of areas for potential improvement we note:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Future revision to the forest management plan that has less focus on Reliance Forest Fibre by incorporating the variability amongst the other two group members.</li> <li>2. Encourage other potential members into the group.</li> <li>3. Enhanced scope and range of evidence gathered for internal audits of group members.</li> <li>4. Monitoring harvest contractors in native forest operations for tree falling and utilisation standards.</li> </ol> <p>We believe that the organization listed above at the site(s) listed above has the capability to systematically meet the requirements of AS4708 for the activities, products and sites listed on the Global-Mark certification scope.</p>
<b>Brief description of the FMUs [Forest Management Units] and Defined Forest Area [DFA]</b>	Native forest FMU and <i>Eucalyptus nitens</i> plantation FMU.
<b>Guidance as to how to obtain further details of the DFA may be accessed</b>	Reliance website at: <a href="https://relianceforestfibre.com.au">https://relianceforestfibre.com.au</a>
<b>The area of the DFA as advised to the Scheme Owner</b>	Small areas of plantation of native forest managed or owned and managed by group members. The current area totals 4,567.8 hectares.

**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.



Photo = Utilisation down to small end at Dilger's Hill.



Photo = Area of minor, acceptable rutting at Ranu.

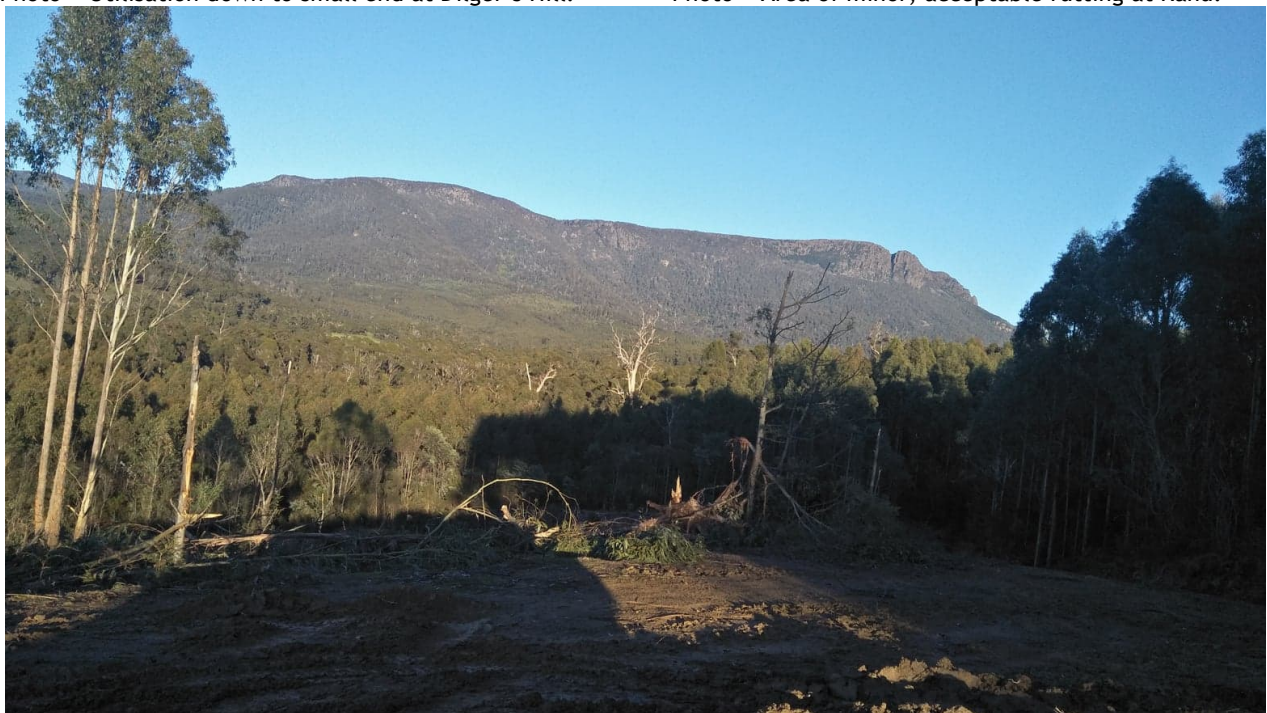


Photo = In this area at Liffey with an exclusion area for Wedge Tailed eagle, we sighted an eagle land in a dead tree.

End of summary report

**Document Information and Revision History of Template**

<b>Document Number &amp; Name</b>	AS 4708 / NZS 4708 Summary Report
<b>Original Author(s)</b>	Wayne Tibbits

Revision	Date	Author(s)	Notes
0	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Dr W. Tibbits	Initial release in new format. Excludes personal information of confidential nature from content.
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