

# Responsible Wood® Forest Management System Summary Report

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*Australian Bluegum Plantations Pty Ltd*

*Certificate # SCS-RW-010*

Stage 2 Evaluation audit

*SCS Contact:*

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Forest Management Certification

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## SECTION A – PUBLIC SUMMARY REPORT

### 1. General Information

#### 1.1 Name and Contact Information

<b>Organization name</b>	Australian Bluegum Plantations Pty Ltd		
<b>Contact person</b>	Leanne Tomlinson		
<b>Address</b>	Suite 1, Level 15	<b>Telephone</b>	+61 429 095 980
	390 St Kilda Road	<b>Fax</b>	
	MELBOURNE	<b>e-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:leanne.tomlinson@austgum.com.au">leanne.tomlinson@austgum.com.au</a>
	Victoria Australia 3204	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.austgum.com.au">www.austgum.com.au</a>

#### 1.2 AFS/ PEFC Sales Information

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AFS/ PEFC Sales contact information same as above.			
<b>AFS/ PEFC salesperson</b>			
<b>Address</b>		<b>Telephone</b>	
		<b>Fax</b>	
		<b>e-mail</b>	
		<b>Website</b>	

#### 1.3 Scope of Certificate

Any changes in the scope of the certification since the previous audit are highlighted in yellow in the tables below.

<b>Certificate Code</b>		
<b>Certification Statement</b>	The scope of the certificate includes all activities associated with Australian Bluegum Plantations' sustainable forest management system within the Defined Forest Area, including the harvest, transport, and sale of forest products. Australian Bluegum Plantations has sufficient control over any contracting or outsourcing of forest management planning and activities to ensure conformance to applicable certification requirements.	
<b>Certificate Type</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Single Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Sites
	<input type="checkbox"/> Group	
<b># Sites and/or Group Members (if applicable)</b>	Two regions within a single DFA. The Western Region is located on the South Coast of Western Australia, and the Green Triangle Region straddles the Victorian and South Australian borders.	
<b>Total DFA hectares in certificate</b>	110,827 hectares	
<b>Description of DFA(s) as Advised to AFS Limited</b>	Area (ha):	45,889 Western Region
	Area (ha):	64,938 Green Triangle Region

	Refer to publicly available maps and information about the DFA(s) provided by the Organization on its website or upon request via the contact person cited at the beginning of this report.			
<b>Applicable Standards/ Guidance</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AS4708-2021 (Australian Standard® for Sustainable Forest Management) / NZS4708-2014 (New Zealand Standard® for Sustainable Forest Management)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> AS4708 GN02-2013 (Guidance for the certification of group forest management)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If combined, joint, or integrated with another forest certification scheme, list scheme and describe use here: FSC-STD-AUS-01-2018 EN National Forest Stewardship Standard of Australia			
<b>Type of Audit</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation <b>RW FM</b> <b>Stage 2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> annual surveillance audit	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> annual surveillance audit	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> annual surveillance audit
	<input type="checkbox"/> Special audit ( <i>explain</i> ):			
<b>Forest Management Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plantation		<input type="checkbox"/> Natural/ semi-natural	
<b>Forest Product Type(s)</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roundwood		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chips	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-timber Forest Products		<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>describe</i> ):	
<b>Species (Common and Scientific Name(s))</b>	Tasmanian Blue Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> )			

<b>Statement on the conformity and effectiveness of the management system together with a summary of the evidence</b>	<p>Australian Bluegum Plantations has developed its Responsible Wood forest management system as an extension to its existing certification under the FSC national stewardship standard of Australia – a scheme to which the company has been certified since October 2004. The company is also certified to the PEFC Chain of Custody Standard PEFC ST 2002:2020.</p> <p>The company has developed its Responsible Wood system with a strong focus on continual review and retention of its significant management system and an integral culture of maintaining a safe work environment. This focus has been evidenced during this audit from the work carried out in preparation of the audit and from site visits conducted by the audit team as well as the review of documents.</p> <p>Staff and contractors displayed a high level of awareness of forest stewardship objectives and of hazard identification, risk assessment and control measures related to their operational activities.</p> <p>The internal audit policy, procedures and checklist and management review process is sufficiently aligned to the Responsible Wood standard AS 4708. The audit and review</p>
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	<p>procedures include a process for issuing nonconformances and observations.</p> <p>Site visits showed that ABP has trained its staff and contractors on the implementation of the Responsible Wood Forest management system. Written procedures were seen to match actual processes. Stakeholder comments were received from nine company representatives with positive comments received from all affected stakeholders.</p>	
<b>RW Logos/labels</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Logo checked and conformant (no non-conformities issued) <input type="checkbox"/> Logo checked, and Nonconformities issued	
<b>Certification Recommendation by Audit Team to SCS</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial certification is recommended.	<input type="checkbox"/> Continued certification is not recommended <i>(explain):</i>

## 2. Audit Dates and Activities

### 2.1 Audit Itinerary and Activities Summary

<b>Date of Audit</b>	18, 19 and 23 to 26 March 2026
<b>Auditor(s)</b>	Kevin Haylock Lead Auditor, Branislav Zoric Team Auditor
<b>Criteria</b>	Responsible Wood Forest Management Standard AS 4708:2021 all Sections 4 to 11.
<b>Detailed Site Notes</b>	Detailed itinerary and site notes are in Appendix 2, <i>Detailed Audit Itinerary and Site Notes</i> .

<b>Any deviations from the audit plan and their reasons, if applicable:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> If this is a remote audit due to Covid-19, check here and describe ICT below.
<b>Summary of most important observations, positive as well as negative, regarding implementation and effectiveness of the Forest Management System:</b>	Consistency and reliability in operational harvesting and silvicultural practices and implementation of procedures through use of databases, forms and the practice of regular and frequent checks were notable. Australian Bluegum Plantations uses an extensive and comprehensive well-maintained Integrated Management System documentation system that is managed from the Head Office in Albany, Western Australia.
<b>Significant changes, if any, that affect the management system of the client since the last audit took place:</b>	The company has developed a revised organisation structure to ensure sufficient staff resources are allocated to the maintenance of the Responsible Wood Forest management system.
<b>Effectiveness of taken corrective actions regarding previously identified nonconformities, if applicable:</b>	As part of the development of its Responsible Wood Forest management system, Australian Bluegum Plantations conducted a thorough internal audit to compare alignment of its forest management system with AS 4708. The audit resulted in eight findings that were graded in accordance with the Responsible Wood standard. The findings were addressed prior to the start of the Stage 1 RW FM Evaluation Audit.
<b>Unresolved issues (if identified):</b>	No issues remain to be resolved.

## 2.2 Confirmation of Meeting Audit Objectives

The objectives for this audit included:

- a) Determination of the conformity of the client’s management system, or parts of it, with audit criteria (Selected Objectives, Performance Measures, and/or Indicators).
- b) Determination of the ability of the management system to ensure the client meets applicable statutory, regulatory and contractual requirements.
- c) Determination of the effectiveness of the management system to ensure the client can reasonably expect to achieve specified objectives.
- d) As applicable, identification of areas for potential improvement of the management system.

Audit Objectives were met	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If no, provide an explanation:
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