FSC Digital Audit Report Template - Forest Management (v1.3.12)

| Report Setup | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|--|
| Licence Code | FSC-C013109 | | |
| Language | EN | | |
| Default Area Units | ha | | |
| Default Wood Volume Units | m3 | | |
| Default NTFP Volume Units | metric tonnes | | |
| Default Pesticide Volume Units | litres | | |
| Display / Print Level | Public Requirements | | |
| Sheet Integrity Complete | Yes | | |
| Page | Progress | | |
| Certificate Holder and Certification Body Details | OK | | |
| The evaluation process | OK | | |
| Personnel / audit team | 1 entry | | |
| Audit itinerary | 6 entries | | |
| Forest management enterprise information | OK | | |
| Group members | 0 entries | | |
| Management Units | 1 entry | | |

| Main commercial timber species included in scope of the certificate | 3 entries |
|---|------------|
| NTFP - non-timber forest products | 0 entries |
| Pesticide use since previous audit/year | 8 entries |
| Forest context and management plan | OK |
| Stakeholder comment(s) | 2 entries |
| Complaint(s) received | 0 entries |
| Nonconformities/Observations raised | 9 entries |
| Peer review(s) | 0 entries |
| Results of the evaluation for ES impacts | 0 entries |
| Ecosystem Services Sponsor information | 0 entries |
| Principles & Criteria Summary | 0 entries |
| Checklist of Indicators | 86 entries |
| Annexes | 3 entries |
| Template Error Reporting | 0 entries |
| Improving Question Translations | 0 entries |
| | |

FSC Forest Management Audit

Public Summary Report

Audit Conducted By SCS

2000 Powell Street

Emeryville California CA 94608 USA

www.scsglobalservices.com

Contact Person Brendan Grady

Report last updated on 22 September 2023

Certificate Holder Manulife Investment Management Forest Management NZ Ltd

Unit 5

120 Hamilton Street Tauranga 3110 New Zealand

Contact Person Chris Barnes

Certified Forest Areas Taumata Plantations Ltd, Tiaki Plantations Company, OTPP NZ Forests Ir

FSC certificate registration

code

FSC-FM/COC-00066P

Certificate issue date 28 September 2023 Certificate expiry date 27 September 2028

Audit Sequence Surveillance

This forest has been certified by SCS Global Services as meeting the requirements of FSC national forest standard FSC-STD-NZL-02-2023 v(2.0).

Certificate Holder and Certification Body Details

| Question | Inputs |
|---|---|
| Certificate Holder | |
| | Manufile Investment Management Found Management NZ Ltd |
| 1.01 Certificate holder name * | Manulife Investment Management Forest Management NZ Ltd |
| 1.02.1 Street Address * | Unit 5, 120 Hamilton Street |
| 1.02.2 Address Line 2 | Tarranana |
| 1.02.3 City * | Tauranga |
| 1.02.4 State or Province | 2440 |
| 1.02.5 Postal Code | 3110 |
| 1.03 Country * | New Zealand |
| 1.04 Contact person full name * | Sally Strang |
| 1.05 Email * | SStrang@manulife.com |
| 1.06 Telephone | |
| 1.07 Website * | Manulife.com/timberland |
| Contificate Development | |
| Certificate Parameters | |
| 1.08 FSC licence code * | FSC-C013109 |
| 1.09 Certificate code * | SCS-FM/COC-00066P |
| 1.10 Former certificate code (if any) | |
| 1.11 Certificate type * | FM/COC |
| 1.12 Group certificate * | No |
| 1.13.1 Initial certification date * | 2004-02-25 |
| 1.13.2 Most recent certification date * | 2023-09-28 |
| 1.13.3 Certificate expiry date * | 2028-09-27 |
| 1.14 Total number of MUs in the scope of | 1 |
| certificate * | 1 |
| 1.15 Total area certified * | 221,370.0 ha |
| 1.16 Change of scope since previous audit * | No |
| 1.16.1 Nature of scope change | |
| 1.17 Ecosystem services (ES) in the scope * | No |
| | |
| 1.25 Name and/or location of the certified forest area(s) | North Island, New Zealand |
| | |
| Certification Body | |
| 1.18 Certification body name * | SCS Global Services |
| 1.19.1 Street Address * | 2000 Powell Street Ste. 600 |
| 1.19.2 Address Line 2 | |
| 1.19.3 City * | Emeryville |
| 1.19.4 State | CA |
| 1.19.5 Postal Code | 94608 |
| 1.20 Country * | United States of America |
| 1.21 Contact person full name * | Brendan Grady |
| 1.22 Email * | bgrady@scsglobalservices.com |
| 1.23 Telephone | +1.510.452.8000 |
| 1.24 Website * | www.scsglobalservices.com |
| / 525115 | |

The evaluation process

| The evaluation process | |
|---|--|
| Question | Inputs |
| | |
| Audit Parameters | |
| 2.01 Audit type * | Surveillance |
| 2.01.1 Audit sequence | Surveillance |
| 2.02 Audit start date * | 2024-01-22 |
| 2.16 First stakeholder consultation date for this audit | |
| 2.03 Audit finish date * | 2024-01-26 |
| 2.04 Total person days * | 7.5 |
| 2.05 Date of report * | 2025-01-23 |
| 2.06 Total area under evaluation * | 221,370.0 ha |
| | |
| Normative Documents | |
| 2.07 Evaluated international normative document(s) | |
| 2.07.1 Trademark standard FSC-STD-50-001 * | Yes |
| 2.07.2 Group standard FSC-STD-30-005 * | No |
| 2.07.3 CoC standard FSC-STD-40-004 * | No |
| 2.07.4 ES procedure FSC-PRO-30-006 * | No |
| 2.07.5 Excision Policy FSC-POL-20-003 * | No |
| 2.07.6 Pesticides Policy FSC-POL-30-001 * | Yes |
| 2.07.7 Applicable NTFP Standard * | No |
| 2.07.8 CIP FSC PRO 30-011 * | No |
| 2.08 Code(s) of NFSS or INS used * | FSC-STD-NZL-02-2023 v(2.0) |
| 2.09 Web link to the standard used | https://connect.fsc.org/document-center/documents/f6766ed6-c0d4-4d47-9060-6d2122bfed51 |
| 2.10 If applicable, the adaptation process of CB interim standard | |

The evaluation process

| Question | Inputs |
|---|--|
| Certification Decision | |
| Octunication Beelsion | |
| 2.20 Conditions (corrections of minor non-conformities) or pre- conditions (corrections of major non-conformities) associated with the certification decision | |
| 2.20.1 No specific condition * | No |
| 2.20.2 Correction of minor NCRs issued within required timelines * | Yes |
| 2.20.3 Correction of major NCRs issued within required timelines * | No |
| 2.20.4 Correction of the pre-conditions to certification identified * | No |
| 2.20.5 Other | |
| 2.21 Lead auditor opinion | |
| 2.21.1 The certificate holder's system of management, if implemented as described, is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standard(s) are met over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the evaluation. * | Yes |
| 2.21.2 The certificate holder has demonstrated, subject to correction of the identified non-conformities, that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the certificate. * | Yes |
| 2.22 Auditor recommendation for the certificate holder's | |
| management system and performance | |
| 2.22.1 A certificate can only be issued/reissued/maintained when all identified Major CARs are closed * | No |
| 2.22.2 The FM system of the evaluated enterprise does not comply with the provisions and standards of FSC. Due to the number of identified major non-compliances the auditors recommend the immediate suspension of the certificate * | No |
| 0.00 Outline testing | The base of the same of the sa |
| 2.23 Certification decision * 2.24 Decision detail | Maintain |
| 2.25 Decision date * | 2025-01-23 |
| 2.26 Decision making entity * | SCS Global Services |

Personnel / audit team



Audit itinerary

| Addit Itilieral | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | Ty | pe of Site | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|----------------|---------------|-------------|-----|--------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------|-------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|------|-----------------------|
| 4.01 Audit Itinerary Item Start Date | 4.02 Hours 4.03 MUs or members | 4.04 Activities | 4.05 Site detail | , co. 1 Office | 1.06.2 East C | A de 3 hurs | 'th | ged after a forced | cular totest | are aneques | ing to 8 mags | A 106 9 Forest | a de des | , age | | goring sites | A DE 14 Rest | A CE STREETING | , es | Age to Corner present |
| 2024-01-22 | 8.00 MFM NZ offices Rotorua | Opening Meeting: Introductions; client summary of and sateriacquisitions, annual management activities, and stakeholder issues; review exope of evaluation, finalize audit plan; introductate for SCC and SCS standards; confidentiality and public summary; confiormance evaluation methods and review of open CARs/OBS; emergency and security procedures for evaluation team; final site selection. Documentation review and staff interviews | , | Yes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2024-01-23 | 8.00 MFM NZ Offices Tokoroa | Documentation review, staff and stakeholder interviews | | Yes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2024-01-24 | 8.00 Eastern Region, Houpolo Forest | Meet landowner representative and discuss land issues. | The auditor discussed the Motu bluff harvest unit two stage harvesting operation. (Two stage harvesting entails logs being harvested and processed on a primary log landing and landing processed on a primary log landing and landing processed on a primary log landing and landing landing and landing land | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | | |
| 2024-01-25 | 6.00 MFM NZ offices Rotorua | Documentation review, staff and stakeholder interviews | | Yes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2024-01-25 | 2.00 OTPP Pinnacles Forest, Harvest u | Visit ground based mechanized harvesting crew, un receive a site induction from the contractor principal and carry out interview | 1 | No | | | | Yes | | | Yes | | | | | Yes | | | | |
| 2024-01-26 | 8.00 MFM NZ Offices Tokoroa | Finalize documentation review and staff interviews. Closing Meeting Preparation: Auditor(s) consolidate notes, deliberate, and confirm evaluation findings. Closing Meeting: Review preliminary findings (potential non-conformities and observations) and discuss next steps. | | Yes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Forest management enterprise information

| Question | Inputs |
|--|---|
| | |
| Forest Area | |
| | |
| 5.02 Brief description of any area of forest over which the certificate holder has some responsibility, whether as owner (including shared or partial ownership), manager, consultant or other responsibility) which the certificate holder has chosen to exclude from the scope of the certificate, together with an explanation of the reason. | Nil |
| 5.03 Area of forest owned/managed but excluded from MUs in the scope of certification | |
| 5.03.1 According to FSC-POL-20-003 * | 0.0 ha |
| 5.03.2 Other reasons * | 0.0 ha |
| 5.19 Environmental safeguards relevant to forest operations | |
| 5.19.1 buffer zone * | Yes |
| 5.19.2 chemical use control * | Yes |
| 5.19.3 conservation area set aside * | Yes |
| 5.19.4 erosion control * | Yes |
| 5.19.5 other, please specify | |
| 5.20 Description of environmental safeguards | Environmental Management Strategy, Environmental Standards, external auditing by regional and district councils. The MFM Environmental Management Systems Manual 2023 (EMS) outlines procedures for planning forest operations. During the planning stage resource consent conditions, District Plan requirements, National Environmental Standards - Plantation Forestry requirements and investigation of the GIS layers are used to ascertain the particular threats and risks to soil and water resources the forest operation may cause. Site specific issues due to geological or climatic constraints are also investigated as well accessing the erosion risk mapping information (Erosion susceptability classification). MFM also provides guidelines for working around streams (Guidelines for Planning Operations Around Waterways), and management of visual impacts (Guidelines for Managing Visual Impacts of Operations). From these data a plan/prescription is developed, and an in-field assessment is performed to ensure that any additional environmental values or risks are accounted for. |
| | and any dealine is in the intermediate of the decounted to. |
| 5.23 Species selection and rationale | |
| 5.23.1 fast growing * | Yes |
| 5.23.2 pest & disease resistant * | Yes |
| 5.23.3 climate change * | Yes |
| 5.23.4 other, please specify | Tree form, wood properties (i.e stiffness, density) |
| 5.25 Main changes in forest management implemented to comply with requirements for FSC certification | Biodiversity management, planting setbacks, stakeholder engagement. Also some changes have been made to meet the requirements in the new NZ FSC standard such as requiring a minimum 10 m riparian buffer zone around waterways. |
| 5.26 Main strengths and weaknesses with respect to the overall conformity with the Forest Stewardship Standard used for the evaluation | MFM continues to review and maintain a strong focus on retaining a significant management system and a robust safety culture, evidenced by the work carried out in preparation of the audit and from site visits conducted by the auditor as well as documentation review which observed a high level of awareness by forest staff and contractors of risks/hazards and controls related to their operational activities. |

Group members - Only required for Group Certificates

6.01 Group member name

6.02 Public contact

6.03 Address

6.04 Email (if available)

6.05 Subcode (if applicable)

6.06 Certified area

| umber of Valid Entries: 1 Area Totals 175,518.00 45,852.00 221, | .01 MU name * | 7.02 Forest zone * | 7.03 SLIMF type * | 7.04 Tenure-ownership | * 7.05 Tenure- management * | 7.06 Centroid Latitude * | 7.07 Centroid Longitude * | 7.08 Total production forest area * | 7.09 Total non- production forest area * | 7.10 Total area of MU * |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | lumber of Valid Entries: | 1 | | | | Area Totals | | 175,518.00 | 45,852.00 | 221,370.00 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Manulife Investment Management Fr Temperate Non-SLIMF Private Private -38.00000000 176.00000000 175,518.00 45,852.00 221, | Manulife Investment Manageme | nt Fr Temperate | Non-SLIMF | Private | Private | -38.00000000 | 176.00000000 | 175,518.00 | 45,852.00 | 221,370.00 |

Main commercial timber species included in scope of the certificate

| 8.01 Species * | 8.02 Product code * | 8.03 Trade name | 8.05 Remarks |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Pinus radiata | W1.1 Roundwood (logs | | |
| Pseudotsuga menziesii | W1.1 Roundwood (logs | | |
| Eucalyptus spp | W1.1 Roundwood (logs | | |

NTFP - non-timber forest products

9.01 Species *

9.02 Product code of NTFP *

9.03 Trade name

9.04 Current annual harvest

Pesticide use since previous audit/year

| 10.01 Active ingredient * | 10.02 Restriction | 10.03 Applied area * | 10.04 Reason for use * | 10.05 Quantity of ingredient * | 10.06 Summary of ESRA * |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| clopyralid | Unrestricted | 1,166.0 ha | post plant weed control | 1,414.0 litres | Not a highly hazardous pestide, low risk. Mitigation meaures are as use of PPE and Mitigation meaures are as use of PPE and • Do not eat, drink or smoke while working with the product. |
| picloram | Unrestricted | 1,067.0 ha | Pre/post plant weed control | 0.3 metric tonnes | Not a highly hazardous pestide. Classed as harmful in aquatic environment. Not to be applied into or onto waterways. |
| glyphosate | Restricted | 3,968.0 ha | post plant weed control | 12.8 metric tonnes | Approved ESRA in place which identifies risks & operational controls (application procedures, PPE, waterway setbacks etc) |
| haloxyfop | Unrestricted | 638.0 ha | post plant weed control | 0.3 metric tonnes | Approved ESRA in place which identifies risks & operational controls (application procedures, PPE, waterway setbacks etc) |
| hexazinone | Unrestricted | 6,861.0 ha | post plant weed control | 11.9 metric tonnes | Not a highly hazardous pestide. Classed as harmful in aquatic environment. Not to be applied into or onto waterways. |
| metsulfuron | Unrestricted | 4,024.0 ha | post plant weed control | 0.5 metric tonnes | Not a highly hazardous pestide. Classed as harmful in aquatic environment. Not to be applied into or onto waterways. |
| terbuthylazine | Unrestricted | 4,491.0 ha | Pre/post plant weed control | 23.2 metric tonnes | Approved ESRA in place which identifies risks & operational controls (application procedures, PPE, waterway setbacks etc) |
| trichlopyr | Unrestricted | 207.0 ha | Pre/post plant weed control | 0.0 metric tonnes | Approved ESRA in place which identifies risks & operational controls (application procedures, PPE, waterway setbacks etc) |

| Question | Inputs |
|--|---|
| 11.28 Description of the forest | Tab 4 has to be completed each year. Tab 11 and 18 only for main and recert audits. |
| 11.29 Description of the management system | |
| | |
| 11.01 Legislative, administrative and land use context of the forest operation | |
| 11.02 Roles of responsible government agencies involved in aspects of forest management | |
| 11.03 Ownership and use-rights (both legal and customary) of lands and forest of external parties other than the certificate holder | |

| Question | Inputs |
|---|--------|
| 11.04 Non-forestry activities being undertaken within the area evaluated, whether they are undertaken by the certificate holder or by some other party (e.g. mining, industrial operations, agriculture, hunting, commercial tourism, etc.) | |
| 11.04.1 mining | |
| 11.04.2 industrial operation | |
| 11.04.3 agriculture | |
| 11.04.4 hunting | |
| 11.04.5 commercial tourism | |
| 11.04.6 other, please specify | |
| | |
| 11.05 Forest management objectives | |
| 11.06 Land use and ownership status of the forest resource | |
| 11.07 Socio-economic conditions of the forest management | |
| 11.08 Brief description of forest composition | |
| 11.09 Profile of adjacent lands | |

| Question | Inputs |
|---|--------|
| | |
| 11.09.1 urban | |
| 11.09.2 agriculture | |
| | |
| 11.09.3 wetland | |
| 11.09.4 mining | |
| 11.09.5 desert | |
| 11.09.6 pasture 11.09.7 orchards | |
| 11.09.7 Orchards | |
| 11.09.8 other, please specify | |
| | |
| 11.10 Management structure of the certificate holder | |
| 11.11 Division of forest management responsibilities | |
| 44 42 Upo of contractors by the | |
| 11.12 Use of contractors by the certificate holder | |
| 11.12.1 silviculture | |
| 11.12.2 road building | |
| 11.12.3 harvesting | |
| 11.12.4 transportation | |
| 11.12.5 forest protection | |
| 11.12.6 pest and disease control | |
| 11.12.7 other, please specify | |
| | |
| | |
| 11.13 Training implemented by the certificate holder | |
| | |
| 11.14 Silvicultural system/regime implemented by the certificate holder | |
| | |

| 1 Olost bolitoxt alia i | |
|--|--------|
| Question | Inputs |
| | |
| 11.15 Technique used for harvesting operations of the certificate holder | |
| 11.15.1 mechanized harvesting | |
| 11.15.2 manual harvesting | |
| 11.15.3 semi-mechanized harvesting | |
| 11.15.4 animal hauling | |
| | |
| 11.15.5 other, please specify | |
| | |
| | |
| 11.16 Management strategy for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species | |
| | |
| | |
| 11.17 Forest monitoring methods implemented by the certificate holder | |
| 11.17.1 forest inventory | |
| 11.17.2 drone monitoring | |
| 11.17.3 remote sensing | |
| 11.17.4 social survey | |
| 11.17.5 sampling plots | |
| 11.17.6 other, please specify | |
| | |
| 11.18 Elaboration of Monitoring of growth, | |
| yield and forest dynamics including change of fauna and flora | |
| 11.19 Environmental and social impacts, and costs, productivity, and efficiency | |

| i diest context and i | nanagement plan |
|---|-----------------|
| Question | Inputs |
| 11.20 Explanation of the assumptions (e.g. silvicultural) on estimate of the maximum sustainable yield for the main commercial species | |
| 11.21 Reference to the source of data (e.g. inventory data, permanent sample plots, yield tables) on which estimates are based | |
| 11.22 Investments and measures taken for the prevention and control of natural hazards (fires, storm, flood, disease, pests, pathogens etc.) during the last calendar year | |
| 11.23 The risk of products from non- certified sources (including any areas specifically excluded from the scope of the certificate) being mixed with products from the forest area evaluated | |

| | management plan |
|---|-----------------|
| Question | Inputs |
| 11.23.1 Description of segregation controls implemented | |
| 11.24 Explanation of the control (tracking and tracing) systems in place that address the risk identified | |
| | |
| 11.25 The documentation or marking system that allows products from the | |
| certified forest area to be reliably | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code 11.25.4 other, please specify 11.26 Elaboration of the chain of custody documentation or marking system | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code 11.25.4 other, please specify 11.26 Elaboration of the chain of custody documentation or marking system | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code 11.25.4 other, please specify 11.26 Elaboration of the chain of custody documentation or marking system | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code 11.25.4 other, please specify 11.26 Elaboration of the chain of custody documentation or marking system 11.27 The final point or forest gate of the certified product | |
| certified forest area to be reliably identified 11.25.1 documents with transportation 11.25.2 tree mark 11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code 11.25.4 other, please specify 11.26 Elaboration of the chain of custody documentation or marking system 11.27 The final point or forest gate of the certified product 11.27.1 log yard | |

Stakeholder comment(s)

| 12.01 Stakeholder group | 12.02 Stakeholder description | 12.03 Stakeholder's comment | 12.04 Notified before audit? | 12.05 Interviewed during this audit? | 12.06 CB's follow up |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Forest workers, contractors | Contractors | Contractors interviewed confirmed excellent working relationships with MFM | No | Yes | Stakeholder consultation carried out at the 2024 recertification audit was very positive with stakeholders reporting a greatly improved relationship with MFM. |
| Indigenous Peoples | lwi representatives | Two lwi representatives commented on very positive relationships with MFM were very responsive and to open dialogue to discuss ideas and options. One stakeholder commented that they now feel like a real partner with MFM with improved dialogue from both sides occurring at a much-improved frequency | Yes | Yes | As above |

Nonconformities/Observations raised

| 110110011 | | | ations is | 4100G | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Finding number * | 14.02 CB Non- conformity Ref | 14.06 Grading * | 14.07 Open / Closed * | 14.08 Standard * | | 14.03 Issue date * | 14.04 Due date ' | 14.05 Close date * | 14.10 Requirement * | 14.11 Description of audit finding * | 14.12 Corrective action taken by the auditee | |
| 2023-C013109-1 | 2023-01 | Obs | Closed | NFSS | 6.2.1 | 2023-09-22 | | 2024-01-26 | A documented environmental impact assessment* identifies potential present and future impacts of management activities on environmental values, from the stand level to the landscape level. | Environmental impact assessment at the landscape level hasn't yet been undertaken. Catchment level assesement undertaken. The MFM EMS section 5.4.4 notes the Assessment of Environmental Effects is required to be completed to identify any landscape scale environmental issues and how they will be addressed. Graded as an observation as the requirement is noted in the EMS, and implementation should be reviewed during the next audit. | AEE's have now been completed for all curently operational forests (where hadn't already been completed for consent applications), and well underway for forests with operations coming up. | The Assessment of Environmental Effects for the following operational forests were provided by the FME and reviewed. - Aramitor Forest - Kinleith Forest - Te Uranga Forest |
| 2023-C013109-2 | 2023-02 | Minor | Closed | NFSS | 6.3.7 | 2023-09-22 | 2024-09-21 | 2024-01-22 | Where negative impacts to environmental values occur, measures are adopted that seek to prevent further damage, and negative impacts are miligated and/or repaired. | Not all environmental incidents entered in Velocity have corrective actions associated with them. Corrective actions are underway but not documented as reviewed for Martins incident No IN 20221220-002, dated December 2022. | AEEs undertaken across the estate | Reviewed 10 Assessment of Environmental Effects reports carried out and completed by MFM |
| 2023-C013109-3 | 2023-03 | Obs | Closed | NFSS | 6.4.5 | 2023-09-22 | | 2024-01-26 | Rare and threatened species and their habitats within the management unit are protected, including through the provision of habitat maintenance, conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity, and other direct means for their survival and viability, such as species' recovery programs. | The EMS encourages contractors/crew to report RTE species sightings but one contractor/crew member noted they hadn't occeived any information about this for at least 5 years. Review of the last crew systems audit confirmed RTE species guide and reporting was discussed with the contractor, this may not have been communicated with all corew. Crew member identified a Kauri snail (included in the MFM threatened species guide) on a road and moved in but didn't report this to MFM. Graded as an observation as RTE species sighting reporting isn't required in the Principles and Contrain and the MFM EMS encourages reporting but doesn't require it. | Environment Alert was sent to crews after audits and discussed with crews at environmental systems audits and encouraged by staff. There were 23 reported sightings since last audit. These sightings were then recorded in the threatened species sightings register. | Example of Envionmental Alert (issue August 2023) on threatened species sightings highlighting the NZ Fatcon was provided by the FIXE and reviewed. The threatened species sightings register was also reviewed. |
| 2023-C013109-4 | 2023-04 | Obs | Closed | NFSS | 6.7.1 6.7.6 | 2023-09-22 | | 2024-01-26 | Riparian zones of a minimum of 10m each side of the water body are identified and documented on all water bodies that have permanent water when forested. Where plantation planting has been undertaken within a riparian zone, evidence of the assessments carried out in the riparian decision support system" are recorded along with resulting effects on aquatic values. | | The new FSC standard includes a new requirement that if you plant within 10m of a perennial waterway you need to have a defailed assessment process and also meet some specified requirements around percentages of waterways the sampler approach and just implement a standard minimum. 10m setback and we had changed our instructions to that effect, but at the time of the 2023 audit the planting season hand it started so no actual planting had taken place. We updated our Planting Environmental Standard and started the implementation work for the 2024 conward plantings. | Forest Management (NZ) Limited Environmental Standards, 8" was provided by the FME and reviewed. The replating minimum setbacks were stated according type of water bodies, external boundaries, archaeological type of water bodies. |
| 2023-C013109-5 | 2023-05 | Minor | Closed | NFSS | 7.6.2 (3) | 2023-09-22 | 2024-09-21 | 2024-01-22 | Culturally appropriate engagement* is used to: 3) Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both directions | Stakeholder consultation (carried out as part of the audit process) has confirmed the importance of culturally appropriate face to face consultation. This remains important after the recent restructuring. Concern was noted by several groups that the level of engagement has reduced since the restructure and where possible should be a part of multiple means of communication. | Increased emphasis on Stakeholder Engagemment at multiple elvels by MFM. | Two let representatives commented on very positive relationships with MFM were very responsive and to open dialogue to discuss internal replans. One stakeholder commented that they now feel like a real partner with MFM with improved dialogue from both sides occurring at a much-improved frequency |
| 2023-C013109-6 | 2023-06 | Minor | Closed | Trademark standard FSC-STD-50-001 | 1.3 1.4 | 2023-09-22 | 2024-09-21 | 2024-01-22 | The FSC trademark licence code assigned by FSC to the organization shall accompany any use of the FSC trademarks. It is sufficient to show the code once per additional control of the code once per the FSC togo marks shall include the trademark symbol in the upper right corner when used on products. The symbol © shall also be added to FSC at the first or most prominent use in any text. | The FSC trademark licence code assigned by FSC to MFM does not accompany use of the FSC initials on the web site. The symbol © has not been added to the FSC initials at the first or most prominent use on the MFM web site. | This was corrected on the company website | Review of the MFM website https://www.mamulifein.com/limberland- agriculture/global en'property-management/limberland- agriculture/global en'property-management/limberland- been included in the uses of the FSC licence code is also present. |
| 2024-C013109- 01 | 2024.1 | Minor | Open | NFSS | 9.4.3 | 2025-01-23 | 2026-01-22 | | A public summary of monitoring results is made available, excluding Confidential information | At the time of the 2024 surveillance audit a public summary of the monitoring results was not available on the company website. | | |
| 2024-C013109- 02 | 2024.2 | Obs | Open | NFSS | 8.2.1 and 8.2.2 | 2025-01-23 | | | The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored consistent with Annex E. Changes in environmental conditions are monitored consistent with Annex E. | As the poisoning operation at the Motu Bluffs will be a high visibility operation, Manuillie could consider implementing photopoint monitoring and regular drone usage to accurately monitor changes in the harvest area swell as the area being poisoned. This could contribute to the knowledge around poisoning standing trees and also to be available as evidence of the progress of the operation should it be required. | | |
| 2024-C013109- 03 | 2024-3 | Obs | Open | NFSS | 9.4.4 | 2025-01-23 | | | The monitoring programme has sufficient scope, scale, detail and frequency to detect changes in high conservation values, relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each high conservation value | MFM could consider using permanent photo points in HCV or reserves to assist to detect changes in values relative to the initial assessment and status | | |

Peer review(s) 15.01 Review 15.02 Peer date * reviewer *

15.03 Peer reviewer expertise

15.04 Peer reviewer's comment *

15.05 Auditor response

Results of the evaluation for ES impacts

16.01 Date of the evaluation of this document *

16.02 Type of evaluation *

16.03 Ecosystem services claims with ES impact *

16.04 Management unit impacted *

16.05 Date of verification or validation of the impact *

16.06 Approved on * 16.07 Valid until *

16.08 Place of approval *

17.06 Ecosystem 17.07 Management 17.08 Start of 17.09 End of 17.10 Additional Service Sponsored * Unit sponsored * sponsorship * sponsorship comments

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| | P1 | The Organization shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations and nationally- ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements. | 0 | |
| | C1.01 | The Organization shall be a legally defined entity with clear, documented and unchallenged legal registration, with written authorization from the legally competent authority for specific activities. | 0 | |
| | C1.02 | The Organization shall demonstrate that the legal status of the Management Unit, including tenure and use rights, and its boundaries, are clearly defined. | 0 | |
| | C1.03 | The Organization shall have legal rights to operate in the Management Unit, which fit the legal status of The Organization and of the Management Unit, and shall comply with the associated legal obligations in applicable national and local laws and regulations and administrative requirements. The legal rights shall provide for harvest of products and/or supply of ecosystem services from within the Management Unit. The Organization shall pay the legally prescribed charges associated with such rights and obligations. | 0 | |
| | C1.04 | The Organization shall develop and implement measures, and/or shall engage with regulatory agencies, to systematically protect the Management Unit from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities. | 0 | |
| | C1.05 | The Organization shall comply with the applicable national laws, local laws, ratified international conventions and obligatory codes of practice, relating to the transportation and trade of forest products within and from the Management Unit, and/or up to the point of first sale. | 0 | |
| | C1.06 | The Organization shall identify, prevent and resolve disputes over issues of statutory or customary law, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner, through engagement with affected stakeholders. | 0 | |
| | C1.07 | The Organization shall publicize a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption, and shall comply with anti-corruption legislation where this exists. In the absence of anti-corruption legislation, The Organization shall implement other anti-corruption measures proportionate to the scale and intensity of management activities and the risk of corruption. | 0 | |
| | C1.08 | The Organization shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria in the Management Unit, and to related FSC Policies and Standards. A statement of this commitment shall be contained in a publicly available document made freely available. | 0 | |
| | P2 | The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers. | 0 | |
| | C2.01 | The Organization shall uphold the principles and rights at work as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) based on the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions. | 0 | |
| | C2.02 | The Organization shall promote gender equality in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities. | 0 | |
| | C2.03 | The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work. | 0 | |
| | C2.04 | The Organization shall pay wages that meet or exceed minimum forest industry standards or other recognized forest industry wage agreements or living wages, where these are higher than the legal minimum wages. When none of these exist, The Organization shall through engagement with workers develop mechanisms for determining living wages. | 0 | |
| | C2.05 | The Organization shall demonstrate that workers have job-specific training and supervision to safely and effectively implement the management plan and all management activities. | 0 | |
| | C2.06 | The Organization through engagement with workers shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation to workers for loss or damage to property, occupational diseases, or occupational injuries sustained while working for The Organization. | 0 | |
| | P3 | The Organization shall identify and uphold Indigenous Peoples' legal and customary rights of ownership, use and management of land, territories and resources affected by management activities. | 0 | |

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| | C3.01 | The Organization shall identify the Indigenous Peoples that exist within the Management Unit or those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these Indigenous Peoples, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit. The Organization shall also identify areas where these rights are contested. | 0 | |
| | C3.02 | The Organization shall recognize and uphold the legal and customary rights of Indigenous Peoples to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Management Unit to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources and lands and territories. Delegation by Indigenous Peoples of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent. | 0 | |
| | C3.03 | In the event of delegation of control over management activities, a binding agreement between The Organization and the Indigenous Peoples shall be concluded through Free, Prior and Informed Consent. The agreement shall define its duration, provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic conditions and other terms and conditions. The agreement shall make provision for monitoring by Indigenous Peoples of The Organization's compliance with its terms and conditions. | 0 | |
| | C3.04 | The Organization shall recognize and uphold the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples as defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989). | 0 | |
| | C3.05 | The Organization, through engagement with Indigenous Peoples, shall identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance and for which these Indigenous Peoples hold legal or customary rights. These sites shall be recognized by The Organization and their management, and/or protection shall be agreed through engagement with these Indigenous Peoples. | 0 | |
| | C3.06 | The Organization shall uphold the right of Indigenous Peoples to protect and utilize their traditional knowledge and shall compensate local communities for the utilization of such knowledge and their intellectual property. A binding agreement as per Criterion 3.3 shall be concluded between The Organization and the Indigenous Peoples for such utilization through Free, Prior and Informed Consent before utilization takes place, and shall be consistent with the protection of intellectual property rights. | 0 | |
| | P4 | The Organization shall contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of local communities. | 0 | |
| | C4.01 | The Organization shall identify the local communities that exist within the Management Unit and those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these local communities, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit. | 0 | |
| | C4.02 | The Organization shall recognize and uphold the legal and customary rights of local communities to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Management Unit to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and territories. Delegation by local communities of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent. | 0 | |
| | C4.03 | The Organization shall provide reasonable opportunities for employment, training and other services to local communities, contractors and suppliers proportionate to scale and intensity of its management activities. | 0 | |
| | C4.04 | The Organization shall implement additional activities, through engagement with local communities, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale, intensity and socio-economic impact of its management activities. | 0 | |
| | C4.05 | The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of those activities and negative impacts. | 0 | |
| | C4.06 | The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and providing fair compensation to local communities and individuals with regard to the impacts of management activities of The Organization. | 0 | |
| | C4.07 | The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, and for which these local communities hold legal or customary rights. These sites shall be recognized by The Organization, and their management and/or protection shall be agreed through engagement with these local communities. | 0 | |

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| | C4.08 | The Organization shall uphold the right of local communities to protect and utilize their traditional knowledge and shall compensate local communities for the utilization of such knowledge and their intellectual property. A binding agreement as per Criterion 3.3 shall be concluded between The Organization and the local communities for such utilization through Free, Prior and Informed Consent before utilization takes place, and shall be consistent with the protection of intellectual property rights. | 0 | |
| | P5 | The Organization shall efficiently manage the range of multiple products and services of the Management Unit to maintain or enhance long term economic viability and the range of environmental and social benefits. | 0 | |
| | C5.01 | The Organization shall identify, produce, or enable the production of, diversified benefits and/or products, based on the range of resources and ecosystem services existing in the Management Unit in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy proportionate to the scale and intensity of management activities. | 0 | |
| | C5.02 | The Organization shall normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit at or below a level which can be permanently sustained. | 0 | |
| | C5.03 | The Organization shall demonstrate that the positive and negative externalities of operation are included in the management plan. | 0 | |
| | C5.04 | The Organization shall use local processing, local services, and local value adding to meet the requirements of The Organization where these are available, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk. If these are not locally available, The Organization shall make reasonable attempts to help establish these services. | 0 | |
| | C5.05 | The Organization shall demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to scale, intensity and risk, its commitment to long-term economic viability. | 0 | |
| | P6 | The Organization shall maintain, conserve and/or restore ecosystem services and environmental values of the Management Unit, and shall avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts. | 0 | |
| | C6.01 | The Organization shall assess environmental values in the Management Unit and those values outside the Management Unit potentially affected by management activities. This assessment shall be undertaken with a level of detail, scale and frequency that is proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary conservation measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities. | 0 | |
| | C6.02 | Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, The Organization shall identify and assess the scale, intensity and risk of potential impacts of management activities on the identified environmental values. | 0 | |
| | C6.03 | The Organization shall identify and implement effective actions to prevent negative impacts of management activities on the environmental values, and to mitigate and repair those that occur, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of these impacts. | 0 | |
| | C6.04 | The Organization shall protect rare species and threatened species and their habitats in the Management Unit through conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities and to the conservation status and ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species. The Organization shall take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare and threatened species beyond the boundary of the Management Unit, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit. | 0 | |
| | C6.05 | The Organization shall identify and protect representative sample areas of native ecosystems and/or restore them to more natural conditions. Where representative sample areas do not exist or are insufficient, The Organization shall restore a proportion of the Management Unit to more natural conditions. The size of the areas and the measures taken for their protection or restoration, including within plantations, shall be proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, and the scale, intensity and risk of management activities. | 0 | |
| | C6.06 | The Organization shall effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and genotypes, and prevent losses of biological diversity, especially through habitat management in the Management Unit. The Organization shall demonstrate that effective measures are in place to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting. | 0 | |
| | C6.07 | The Organization shall protect or restore natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity. The Organization shall avoid negative impacts on water quality and quantity and mitigate and remedy those that occur. | 0 | |

| Display Index 18.01 Standard Requirement 18.02 Num CARs 18.03 Summary Assessment The Organization shall manage the landscape in the Management Unit to maintain and/or restore a varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales and regeneration cycles appropriate for the landscape values in that region, and for enhancing environmental and economic resilience. The Organization shall not convert natural forest to plantations, nor natural forests or plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to nonforest land use, except when the conversion: a) Affects a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit, and b) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit, and c) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values. Management Units containing plantations that were established on areas converted from natural forest after November 1994 shall not qualify for certification, except where: a) Clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization was not directly or indirectly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or b) The conversion affected a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit. The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management. The associated planning and | |
|--|--|
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| forests or plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to nonforest land use, except when the conversion: a) Affects a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit, and b) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit, and c) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values. Management Units containing plantations that were established on areas converted from natural forest after November 1994 shall not qualify for certification, except where: a) Clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or b) The conversion affected a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit. The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in | |
| converted from natural forest after November 1994 shall not qualify for certification, except where: a) Clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or b) The conversion affected a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit. The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in | |
| policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in | |
| procedural documentation shall be sufficient to guide staff, inform affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders and to justify management decisions. | |
| The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its C7.01 management activities, set policies (visions and values) and objectives for 0 management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and | |
| The Organization shall have and implement a management plan for the Management Unit which is fully consistent with the policies and management objectives as established according to Criterion 7.1. The management plan shall describe the natural resources that exist in the Management Unit and explain how the plan will meet the FSC certification requirements. The management plan shall cover forest management planning and social management planning proportionate to scale, intensity | |
| and risk of the planned activities. C7.03 The management plan shall include verifiable targets by which progress | |
| towards each of the prescribed management objectives can be assessed. The Organization shall update and revise periodically the management planning and procedural documentation to incorporate the results of C7.04 monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder engagement or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances. | |
| The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the management plan free of charge. Excluding confidential information, other relevant components of the management plan shall be made available to affected stakeholders on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling. | |
| C7.06 The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, proactively and transparently engage affected stakeholders in its management planning and monitoring processes, and shall engage interested stakeholders on request. | |
| The Organization shall demonstrate that, progress towards achieving the management objectives, the impacts of management activities P8 and the condition of the Management Unit, are monitored and 0 evaluated proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, in order to implement adaptive management. | |
| The Organization shall monitor the implementation of its Management C8.01 Plan, including its policies and management objectives, its progress with 0 the activities planned, and the achievement of its verifiable targets. | |
| C8.02 The Organization shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social | |
| The Organization shall analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation | |
| and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process. The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the results of | |
| The Organization shall have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, for demonstrating the source and volume in proportion to projected output for each year, of all products from the Management Unit that are marketed as FSC certified. | |
| The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High P9 Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach. | |

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| | C9.01 | The Organization, through engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence and status of the following High Conservation Values in the Management Unit, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values. | 0 | |
| | C9.02 | The Organization shall develop effective strategies that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values, through engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and experts. | 0 | |
| | C9.03 | The Organization shall implement strategies and actions that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values. These strategies and actions shall implement the precautionary approach and be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities. | 0 | |
| | C9.04 | The Organization shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of High Conservation Values, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and shall include engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and experts. | 1 | |
| | P10 | Management activities conducted by or for The Organization for the Management Unit shall be selected and implemented consistent with The Organization's economic, environmental and social policies and objectives and in compliance with the Principles and Criteria collectively. | 0 | |
| | C10.01 | After harvest or in accordance with the management plan, The Organization shall, by natural or artificial regeneration methods, regenerate vegetation cover in a timely fashion to pre-harvesting or more natural conditions. | 0 | |
| | C10.02 | The Organization shall use species for regeneration that are ecologically well adapted to the site and to the management objectives. The Organization shall use native species and local genotypes for regeneration, unless there is clear and convincing justification for using others. | 0 | |
| | C10.03 | The Organization shall only use alien species when knowledge and/or experience have shown that any invasive impacts can be controlled and effective mitigation measures are in place. | 0 | |
| | C10.04 | The Organization shall not use genetically modified organisms in the Management Unit. | 0 | |
| | C10.05 | The Organization shall use silvicultural practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives. | 0 | |
| | C10.06 | The Organization shall minimize or avoid the use of fertilizers. When fertilizers are used, The Organization shall demonstrate that use is equally or more ecologically and economically beneficial than use of silvicultural systems that do not require fertilizers, and prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values, including soils. | 0 | |
| | C10.07 | The Organization shall use integrated pest management and silviculture systems which avoid, or aim at eliminating, the use of chemical pesticides. The Organization shall not use any chemical pesticides prohibited by FSC policy. When pesticides are used, The Organization shall prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values and human health. | 0 | |
| | C10.08 | The Organization shall minimize, monitor and strictly control the use of biological control agents in accordance with internationally accepted scientific protocols. When biological control agents are used, The Organization shall prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values. | 0 | |
| | C10.09 | The Organization shall assess risks and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk. | 0 | |
| | C10.10 | The Organization shall manage infrastructural development, transport activities and silviculture so that water resources and soils are protected, and disturbance of and damage to rare and threatened species, habitats, ecosystems and landscape values are prevented, mitigated and/or repaired. | 0 | |
| | C10.11 | The Organization shall manage activities associated with harvesting and extraction of timber and non-timber forest products so that environmental values are conserved, merchantable waste is reduced, and damage to other products and services is avoided. | 0 | |
| | C10.12 | The Organization shall dispose of waste materials in an environmentally appropriate manner. | 0 | |

| 19.04 Criterion Index | 19.01 Indicator Definition | 19.02 Observation | 19.03 Conformant? |
|--------------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| | | Manulife Forest Management (MFM) is a registered New Zealand company as confirmed during review of the NZ Companies office register at https://app.companiesoffice.govt.nz/. Company number 1573725. NZBN 9429035094067 Incorporated 19 Nov 2004. Manulife is registered under the NZ Companies Act and certificates can be generated, the name change to Manulife was finalised in November 2021. | |
| | | MFM have management contracts with each of their clients (OTPP, Taumata and Tiaki). Clients land ownership: Tauamata holds fee simple land (freehold) and various forest agreements. Tiaki only have forest agreements with no freehold land while OTPP has forest agreements and now has freehold land being Waonui Forest and forestry rights. | |
| Index Calc | | Reviewed Record of Title Under Land Transfer Act 2017 Leasehold for 99 years from 1/3/76 for Orete 2 Block, OreteA&B, No2BNo3 Block title # L113761.7. Reviewed Record of Title Under Land Transfer Act 2017 Leasehold for 99 years from 1/10/73 for Section 1 Survey Office Plaan 56870 and Paehinahina-Mourea Block. | Yes |
| | | Reviewed GIS mapping for Kinleith, It includes property details and links to land database. Reviewed the Lands Database that also shows land titles and boundaries. | |
| | | | |
| C1.01 | 1.1.2 Legal registration is granted in accordance with New Zealand law. | Reviewed the New Zealand Companies office which is the government agency responsible for administering New Zealand's business registers. Manulife is registered as company number 1573725, NZBN 9429035094067, registed since 19 November 2004 | Yes |
| C1.02 | 1.2.1 Legal tenure to manage and use resources within the scope of the certificate is documented. Verifiers: Relevant land titles, leases, licences, forestry* rights, Crown Forestry* Rights, rights, easements and other legal mechanisms for land or property under the management units. | Reviewed the Database/Land View. MFM (NZ) staff hold a LINZ licence to obtain Records of Title, and all instruments registered on those titles. Each land parcel has documentation regarding legal tenure, either freehold, lease, or forestry right as reviewed in the Land Database in 1.1.1 Reviewed Survey 123 which includes s/h communications and used for informal communications. Meeting minutes go into the Lands Database. | Yes |
| C1.02 | 1.2.2 Legal tenure is granted by a legally competent authority according to legally prescribed processes. | All legal documents are prepared by the clients appointed legal counsel in consultation with MFM (NZ). Interviewed the Land Manager who confirmed various legal representatives represent documents for MFM clients. These are coordinated by the Land Manager, which then have a corporate approval note attached with explanations attached then presented to the directors to sign. Boundaries and ownership information is in Latitude and Land View. Tenure documents reviewed in 1.1.1 are legal documents prepared by the clients appointed legal counsel in consultation with MFM (NZ) and signed by the relevant leasee or forestry right owner. | Yes |
| C1.02 | 1.2.3 The boundaries of all management units within the scope of the certificate are clearly marked or documented and clearly shown on maps. Verifiers: Legal boundaries for the management units in a GIS system, on physical maps, or a map showing property ownership including formal public access routes, public access easements and formed and unformed legal roads on these maps. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | Confirmed from interview that boundaries and ownership information is in Latitude and Land View database that includes MFM operational information as well as title information for MFM and neighbours. Reviewed Kinleith Forest MFM. During interview the land manager noted that all forest land is mapped with various filters including MFM boundaries only (reviewed Tarawera, and Houpoto Forests | Yes |
| C1.03 | 1.3.1 Activities covered by the management plan are designed to comply with all applicable laws. | The auditor confirmed that management plan elements, being (the EMS, H&S Manual etc) have been developed taking into account relevant legal requirements and updated as required when legislation changes. The NES-PF was revised in late 2023 and MFM has 12 months to comply with all requirements. All activities are designed to comply with current applicable laws, regulations, administrative requirements, customary rights and obligatory codes of practice. The FMP, Health & Safety Management System and Environmental Policy all reflect the requirements of applicable laws, regulations, administrative requirements, customary rights and obligatory codes of practice. MFM also produce docs like toolbox minutes, incident reports, monthly audits etc as evidence of compliance. Also confirmed that the MFM Health & Safety Policy and Health, Safety Management System and Environmental Policy are reviewed annually or as required by way of legislative changes. All Policies, procedures relating to management activities are updated as legislation changes | Yes |

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| C1.03 | 1.3.2 All activities undertaken in the management unit are carried out in compliance with: 1) Applicable laws and regulations and administrative requirements 2) Legal and customary rights; and 3) Obligatory codes of practice. NTFP 1.3.3 When non-timber forest products are aimed to human or animal consumption, all applicable legal and administrative requirements for hygiene and food safety are complied with. | The requirements of all applicable laws and regulations, administrative requirements, customary rights; and Obligatory codes of practice are reflected in the FMP and cascade down to the crews via documents and processes such as Harvest Plans, SOP's and toolbox meetings and then audits to ensure the required compliance. The Environment team in MFM ensure that all requirements are met across the estate and inform operations staff of any changes to legal requirements. There are a range of laws that the CH is required to meet, including the Resource Management Act, Health and Safety at Work Act. Management plan elements (Environmental Management System, Health and Safety Manual) have been developed taking into account relevant legal requirements. | Yes |
| C1.03 | 1.3.4 Payment is made in a timely manner of all applicable legally prescribed charges connected with forest management. | All payments made as required. The auditor interviewed the MFM VP Finance and Accounting who demonstrated through the provision of financial records that MFM was up to date ofr all payments of all required fees, royalties, taxes and other charges. GST is paid monthly by MFM for all clients and the corporate file returns. Reviewed Rates payment to the Waikato Regional Council dated 7/9/23 | Yes |
| C1.04 | 1.4.1 Measures are implemented to provide protection from unauthorized or illegal* harvesting, hunting, fishing, trapping, collecting, settlement, and other unauthorized activities. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | All forest sites visited during the audit have gates that are locked overnight. The Environmental Manager noted that there is a security firm engaged to undertake security patrols, confirmed by contractors. There are security patrols in all regions. Gate keys are issued, and police can be involved if required. | Yes |
| | | Forest security is in place including locked gates and surveillance by security contractors. Illegal activities are notified to the police, including following up with police to try to ensure that appropriate action is undertaken. All forest sites visited during the audit have gates that are locked overnight. The Environmental Manager noted that there is a security firm engaged to undertake security patrols, confirmed by contractors. There are security patrols in all regions. Gate keys are issued, and police can be involved if required. | |
| C1.04 | 1.4.2 Where protection is the legal responsibility of regulatory bodies, a system is implemented to work with these regulatory bodies to identify, report, control, and discourage unauthorised or illegal* activities. | Interviewed the Protection Manager in relation to illegal activities and confirmed that poaching, machinery vandalism, opportunistic theft and drug cultivation are the main illegal activities. MFM NZ provides a weekly Brief Security Notes to police describing issues found in the forest in the past week (Reviewed Week ending 27/11/23) that listed gates cut and a new gate installed. Also reviewed Brief Security Notes to police dated 23/11/23 which included diesel theft, vandalism to a diesel tank and gates cut. (Central Region gate repair budget \$200k) | Yes |
| | | Trespass notices are passed on to police and security staff will liaise with police if required. Security also talk to farmer neighbours regarding people accessing the forest through the farms. | |
| C1.04 | 1.4.3 If illegal* or unauthorised activities are detected, measures are undertaken to address them. | Confirmed in interview that protection is not the responsibility of a regulatory body, it is undertaken by contracted parties on behalf of MFM who do liaise with police if required. Liaison is undertaken with the police as required. Incidents are reported to police if deem necessary. For example, Olsen crew 4 had some harvesting equipment stolen and this was reported to police. | Yes |
| C1.05 | Compliance with applicable laws, local laws, ratified international conventions and obligatory codes of practice relating to the transportation and trade of forest products up to the point of first sale is demonstrated. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | The only forest product traded is logs from exotic timber species. All laws are complied with. The COC Procedure contains a clause requiring compliance with the 'Legal Compliance Policy' | Yes |
| C1.05 | 1.5.2 Compliance with CITES provisions is demonstrated, including through possession of certificates for harvest and trade in any CITES species. Applicability note: This indicator is only applicable when The Organisation or other entity is taking, using and trading in CITES-listed species from the management unit. | MFM trade plantation grown Pinus radiata only and does not trade in any threatened species. | Yes |
| C1.06 | | The MFM NZ Ltd Forest Management Plan Public Summary available on the Manulife website notes that the Disputes Resolution Procedure is available on request. | Yes |
| C1.06 | 1.6.2 Disputes related to issues of applicable laws or customary law that can be settled out of court are responded to in a timely manner and are either resolved or are in the dispute resolution process*. | Most issues are settled before they become disputes. Reviewed the disputes Register. The Matahina Quarry dispute has been resolved with MFM, and the only other dispute (Waikawa Lands Trust) is awaiting a ruling from the Māori Land Court. MFM make all efforts to respond to any dispute as soon as possible. | Yes |

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| C1.06 | 1.6.3 Up-to-date records of disputes related to issues of applicable laws or customary law, are held including: 1) Steps were taken to resolve disputes; 2) Outcomes of all Dispute resolution processes*; and 3) Unresolved disputes and the reasons why they are not resolved and how they will be resolved. | Section 15 of the EMS, April 2022 specifies that disputes must be registered in the MFM New Zealand (NZ) Dispute Register and communication with parties in dispute must be documented in file relevant to the party, with significant documents uploaded to the Land Database. Reviewed the MFM Disputes Register which lists two current potential disputes one dated 2019 and the other 2022: Matahina Quarry, commenced Jan 2019 regarding profit a prende in relation to 3rd party sales of gravel. MFM not using quarry. The Resource Consent Agreement has expired. MFM has been working with Ngati Awa to have the quarry returned to them, this became a very involved process. This process is ongoing but the Profit a Pendre with Tiaki expires in 2024. Waikawa: commenced March 2022. Contractor has taken issues to the Māori land court. Judge decided that the injunction could be submitted, and their lawyer needed to set hearing date by 26 Aug 2022. No contact from their lawyer since and MFM have applied to the court to have injunction struck out. The Waikawa Lands Trust is the party to which OTPP is responsible under the Lease conditions. This was taken to the Maori Land Court who have not responded and will be closed in the disputes Register There has been no disputes registered since 2022 (last entry in the Disputes Register) | Yes |
| C1.06 | Operations cease in areas while disputes exist: Of substantial magnitude*; or Of substantial duration*; or Involving a significant number of interests. | The Disputes Resolution Policy provides for work to stop in certain circumstances. See Matahina Quarry example in 1.6.3. Work was stopped in the Matahina Quarry will the dispute was under way | Yes |
| C1.07 | A policy is implemented that includes a commitment not to offer or receive bribes of any description. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | The Manulife August 2023 Code of Business Conduct and Ethics reviewed, and it prohibits bribery and kickbacks are prohibited and it also covers gifting and states: It is important that we comply with all laws and regulations that apply when offering to provide entertainment, meals, nominal gifts, gratuities and other items of value to any employee or representative of federal, provincial, state or local governments or state-owned enterprises, or when accepting such items of value from any employee or representative of federal, provincial, state or local governments or state-owned enterprises. | Yes |
| C1.07 | 1.7.2 The policy is publicly available at no charge. | The Manulife 2021 Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available online at ttps://www.manulife.com/content/dam/corporate/global/en/documents/corporate-governance/MFC_CODE_CONDUCT_2023_EN.PDF. | Yes |
| C1.07 | 1.7.3 Bribery, coercion and other acts of corruption do not occur, and there is compliance with: Crimes Act 1961 Tax Administration Act 1994 Goods and Services Tax Act 1985 Sale of Goods Act 1908 Income Tax Act 2007 Commerce Act 1986 Companies Act 1993 Consumer Guarantees Act 1993 Contracts (Privity) Act 1982 Electoral Act 1993 New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants Code of Ethics. | Not occurring internally, as confirmed in interivew with the Environmental Manager and VP Finance & Accounting. No evidence of bribery/corruption identified during audit | Yes |
| C1.07 | 1.7.4 Corrective measures are implemented if corruption does occur. | A breach of the Bribery policy may result in a penalty up to and including termination of employment in serious cases. Relevant procedures in place for segregation of duties with controls in place to mitigate these issues. Externally audited every year. There has only been one instance of fraud but occurring within a customer rather than within MFM itself, MFM assisted with the investigation. Internal fraud has not occurred within MFM, multiple check levels are applied within the company however if it did occur legal avenues would be applied. In addition, the Policy requires that if bribery / corruption does occur then processes / procedures are reviewed to ensure appropriate corrective action is taken | Yes |
| C1.08 | A written policy, endorsed by an individual with authority to implement the policy, includes a long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with FSC Principles and Criteria and related policies and standards. | The auditor viewed the document 'Manulife Forest Management (NZ) Ltd, Forest Management Plan, Public Summary 2022', dated April 2022 and the Environmental Policy dated 4 April 2022. These are both downloadable from the FME's website https://www.manulifeim.com/timberland-agriculture/global/en/property-management/timberland-operations/new-zealand. They both provide a written commitment to the FSC Standard. | Yes |
| C1.08 | 1.8.2 The policy is publicly available at no cost. | Policy available at www.manulife at no cost | Yes |
| C2.01 | 2.1.1 Employment practices and conditions for workers demonstrate conformity with or uphold the principles and rights of work addressed in the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998). Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C2.01 | Workers are able to establish or join labour organisations of their choosing subject only to the rules of the labour organisation concerned. 2.1.3 The forest manager has documentation indicating the | | |
| C2.01 | existence of any Treaty of Waitangi Claims over the land. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C2.01 | 2.1.4 The Organisation respects the full freedom of workers' organisations to draw up their constitutions and rules. Explanatory note: Forestry Workers Network is a free network provided by First Union which is the official union representing forestry workers. | | |

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| C2.01 | 2.1.5 Agreements resulting from collective bargaining with representatives from trade unions or informal organisations are implemented. | | |
| C2.01 | The Organisation facilitates union access to workers including the employees of contractors and sub-contractors in accordance with section 20 of the Employment Relations Act 2000. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.1 Systems promote gender equality and prevent gender discrimination in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities, in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1993 and Equal Pay Act 1972. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.2 Job opportunities are open to all persons under the same conditions, and women are encouraged to actively participate in all levels of employment, in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1993 and Equal Pay Act 1972. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.3 Work such as silviculture, non-timber forest product harvesting, weighing, packing, nursery service, etc. is included in training and health & safety programs to the same extent as any other type of work. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.4 Parental leave and partner's/paternity leave (where the spouse/partner is an employee) complies with the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.5 All persons receive the same rate of remuneration when they do the same or substantially similar work in accordance with the Equal Pay Act 1972. Guidance: Refer to New Zealand law and guidance. There continue to be proposed changes to this legislation so that the specifics may change. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.6 Meetings, management committees and decision-making forums are organized to include women and men, and to facilitate the active participation of both. | | |
| C2.02 | 2.2.7 Confidential and effective mechanisms exist for reporting and eliminating cases of sexual harassment and discrimination based on gender, marital status, parenthood, sexual orientation or any other ground. | | |
| C2.03 | 2.3.1 The Organisation complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act and has systems in place to ensure compliance with the Approved Code of Practice for Safety and Health in Forest Operations. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | Reviewed the Health & Safety Wellbeing Policy, last updated 8th January 2024 and the Management Systems Manual, July 2022 (H&S Manual) are designed to comply with the Health and Safety and Work Act 2015 and associated regulations, codes and guidelines. This is updated as legislation changes, review of specific sections can occur as changes within MFM occur. Sharepoint used to store all H& S Information and shared with all MFM staff. Concern was noted in 2023 by MFM that the distribution sector required close examination for safety incidents, factors contributing to incidents were found to be both external influences (environmental – road conditions) as well as personal influences. Fatigue monitoring is compulsory in all trucks and is reported by MFM on quarterly. There was an LJM Health Survey undertaken across all MFM entities in 2023 with one on one interviews, focus groups, site visits and discussion groups. This is anonymous answering regime and included stakeholder engagement, challenge and opportunities, communication and consultation, health and wellbeing, learning from incidents and a collaborative approach. The survey gives directions for focus for the immediate future. Reviewed the weekly brief for Week Ending 19 January reviewed weekly with the CEO and the H&S team. Reviewed the MFM Critical risk Strategic Plan 2022/2027 that includes an annual review of the H&S system. An overview of the H&S system was provided. Directions are set within the Health and Safety Strategy 2023, an annually reviewed document. This strategy focusses on working together with contractors, with culture, systems and innovation the key pillars of the strategy. The H&S Manual (August 2022) sets out MFM's health and safety. | Yes |
| C2.03 | 2.3.2 Workers are given the opportunity to participate in health and safety initiatives. | The Health and Safety Manager notes that Peak health and safety committee meeting is undertaken monthly and consists of MFM staff and contractor staff. As confirmed during review of Manulife Forest Management (N2) Limited PEAK HSE Committee Minutes 27 October 2022. There are 6 formal meetings per year and six guest speaker type meetings. MFM is looking at opportunities for new people to come on the committee. Engagements with workers has increased and is reported weekly. There are Safe Starts for all crews annually at the start of each year. The National H&S Manager has attended 7 Safe Starts in the year. There is a company push to increase engagements with staff and contractors. MFM is also looking at ways to move engagements to a more formal stage. | Yes |
| C2.03 | 2.3.3 Workers have personal protective equipment appropriate to their assigned tasks and provided by their employer, compliant with the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Approved Code of Practice for Safety and Health in Forest Operations. | During visits to operational sites, the auditor noted all staff and contractors wore appropriate PPE for the task. Staff note that PPE is provided by MFM. The company provides PPE for all staff, contractors are responsible for ensuring the correct PPE is supplied. | Yes |
| C2.03 | 2.3.4 Use of personal protective equipment is enforced. | Harvesting Foresters ensure that PPE is checked, and should a person not be wearing they would be stood down. All staff and crews were wearing the required PPE during the site visits. All chainsaw operators in silviculture thinning crews must also carry the same first aid kit. | Yes |
| C2.03 | The Organisation operates a health and safety management system that is consistent with the Health and Safety at Work Act. | The auditor confirmed that the Health & Safety Wellbeing Policy, updated 8 January 2024 and the MFM Health and Safety Management Systems Manual, August 2022 (H&S Manual) is designed to comply with the Health and Safety and Work Act 2015 and associated regulations, codes and guidelines. | Yes |

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| C2.03 | 2.3.6 There is a system for reporting and investigating health and safety incidents, which includes: 1) Notifiable incidents (previously serious harm incidents) are reported to WorkSafe and fully investigated; and 2) relevant findings of investigations are communicated to workers; and 3) the Health and Safety practices are reviewed and revised as required after major incidents or accidents; and 4) records are kept on health and safety practices, including accident rates and lost time to accidents. NTFP 2.3.7 (applicable for commercial hunting only) Safety measures are implemented in areas with ongoing hunting activities to protect the public from casualties. | The H&S Manual includes a section on Reportable incidents, which covers the reporting of Lost time injury (LTI) and medical treatment injury (MTI), the classification rating tool used to identify who needs to be involved in incident reporting and investigation. There have been incidents to WorkSafe in the audit period, however MFM are reporting to Worksafe at a required compliance level but also at an LTI or MTI reporting level that may not be considered a compliance report. MFM carry out initial investigations alongside the contractor and supply this to WorkSafe who will decide if they want to investigate it. There have been visits by WorkSafe Inspectors to MFM harvest sites in the audit period. | Yes |
| C2.04 | 2.4.1 Wages paid by The Organisation meet or exceed the requirements of the Minimum Wage Act 1983. | | |
| C2.04 | 2.4.2 For employees on piece rates, the amount earned can't be less than the minimum hourly wage equivalent. | | |
| C2.04 | 2.4.3 Wages paid meet or exceed: Minimum forest industry standards; or Other recognized forest industry wage agreements; or Living wages that are higher than legal minimum wages. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C2.04 | 2.4.4 Where contractors are engaged in the management unit the living wage is calculated into the contract for workers. | | |
| C2.04 | 2.4.5 The Organisation has a method to determine that the workers | | |
| C2.04 | receive the living wage. 2.4.6 Wages, salaries and contracts are paid on time. | | |
| C2.04 | 2.4.7 Workers are paid directly and using mutually agreed methods to ensure they safely receive and retain their wages, e.g. direct bank transfer. | | |
| C2.05 | transfer. 2.5.1 Workers are trained, or in training, for the task(s) they are performing, with supervision to safely and effectively contribute to the implementation of the management plan and all management activities. Verifiers: Approved Code of Practice for Safety and Health in forest Operations requirement that "every person undertaking forestry" work should be either under documented training and close supervision, or deemed competent"; and/or industry certification requirements or similar schemes relevant to their role of workers. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C2.05 | 2.5.2 Up-to-date training records are kept for all relevant workers. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C2.06 | 2.6.1 The Organisation complies with the dispute resolution requirements of the Employment Relations Act 2000, including provisions in the worker's individual/collective employment agreement. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C2.06 | 2.6.2 Workers grievances are identified and responded to and are either resolved or are in the dispute resolution process*. | | |
| C2.06 | 2.6.3 Up-to-date records of workers grievances related to workers loss or damage of property, occupational diseases or injuries are maintained including: 1) Steps taken to resolve grievances; and 2) outcomes of all Dispute resolution processes* including fair compensation; and 3) unresolved grievances and the reasons why they were not resolved. | | |
| C2.06 | 2.6.4 The Organisation complies with the provisions of New Zealand law to ensure work-related occupational disease or injuries are covered by ACC. Guidance: The relevant legislation which The Organisation must comply with, includes the Employment Relations Act 2000, the Wage Protection Act 1983, the Accident Compensation Act, and the Health and Safety at Work Act. | | |
| C2.06 | 2.6.5 The Organisation complies with the provisions of New Zealand law (see the guidance to 2.6.4) to offer remedial action or fair compensation in the case of work-related loss or damage of property. | | |
| C3.01 | 3.1.1 Tangata whenua* and their representative bodies within the management unit and those outside the management unit that may be affected by management activities are identified and, up to date records are kept by management. | | |
| C3.01 | 3.1.2 Through Culturally appropriate engagement* the following Tangata whenua* rights relating to the management unit are identified and documented by management: 1) Tenure rights and agreements; 2) customary rights and obligations; 3) agreements relating to mana whenua*, access and the use of natural resources; 4) agreements, arrangements and requests for the protection and safeguarding of cultural taonga* including wahi tapu* and wahi tupuna*. | | |
| C3.01 | 3.1.3 Through Culturally appropriate engagement*: 1) Identify and document the customary obligations of Tangata whenua* relating to tino rangati ratanga* and kaitiakitanga* and any other customary values and practices that Tangata whenua* may deem important in the management of their customary lands and taonga* within the management unit; and 2) Identify and document disputes or disagreements with Tangata whenua* relating to legal and/or customary rights and the application of customary obligations within the Management unit. | | |
| C3.01 | 3.1.4 Through Culturally appropriate engagement* identify and document the aspirations and goals that Tangata whenua* may have to their ancestral land and taonga* within the management unit. | | |

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| C3.02 | 3.2.1 Through Culturally appropriate engagement* Tangata whenua* are informed of when, where, and how they can comment on, and request modification to, management activities to the extent necessary to protect* their rights and maintain their obligations. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.2 The legal and customary rights of Tangata whenua* are not violated by The Organisation. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.3 Where evidence exists that legal and customary rights of Tangata whenua* related to management activities have been violated, the situation is recorded and corrected, if necessary, through Culturally appropriate engagement* and/or through the dispute resolution process* required in Criteria 1.6 or 4.6. 7.3.2.4 Free, Prior and Informed Consent is granted by Tangata | |
| C3.02 | whenua* before management activities that affect their identified legal and customary rights through a mutually agreed proc that includes the provisions listed in 3.2.4c. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.5 Mandated representatives of Tangata whenua* organisations are engaged by mutually agreed communication protocols. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.6 Formal meeting minutes have been recorded and agreed. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.7 Tangata whenua* have been informed of: 1) The economic, social, and environmental value (by the delegation of control of their re-sources) to The Organisation; 2) Their right to withhold consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect rights, customary obligations and resources and taonga*. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.8 The Organisation provides reasonable opportunities for employment, training and other services to Tangata whenua* contractors and suppliers proportionate to intensity of its management activities. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.9 The Organisation implements additional activities, through engagement with Tangata whenua*, that contribute to their natural environment and social and economic development, proportionate to the scale and socio-economic impact of its management activities. Guidance: Refer to 4.4 as guidance and as a means to incorporate | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.9 in a whole of community approach | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.10 The Organisation, through engagement with Tangata whenua*, takes action to identify, avoid, remedy and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on Tangata whenua*. The action taken is proportionate to the scale, and risk of those activities and negative impacts. Guidance: Refer to 4.5 as guidance and as a means to incorporate | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.10 in a whole of community approach. | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.11 Where there has been proven evidence of negative or adverse impacts that cannot be remedied or mitigated upon Tangata whenua* as a result of management activities, The Organisation through engagement with Tangata whenua* has mechanisms to recognise negative impacts, resolving grievances, and providing fair compensation. Guidance: Refer to 4.6 as guidance and as a means to incorporate | |
| C3.02 | 3.2.11 in a whole of community approach. | |
| C3.03 | 3.3.1 Where control over management activities has been granted the binding agreement contains the duration, provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic conditions and other terms and conditions. The binding agreement was established through Free Prior and Informed Consent based on Culturally appropriate engagement*. | |
| C3.03 | 3.3.2 Records of binding agreements are maintained. | |
| C3.03 | 3.3.3 The binding agreement contains the provision for monitoring by Tangata whenua* of The Organisation's compliance with its terms and conditions. | |
| C3.04 | 3.4.1 The rights, customs, and culture of Tangata whenua* as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169 are not violated by The Organisation. | |
| C3.04 | 3.4.2 Where evidence that rights, customs and culture of Tangata whenua*, as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169, have been violated by The Organisation, the situation is documented including steps to restore these rights, customs and culture of Tangata whenua*, to the satisfaction of the rights holders. | |
| C3.05 | 3.5.1 Sites and natural features of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which Tangata whenua* hold legal or customary rights are identified through Culturally appropriate engagement*. Guidance: Refer to 4.7 as guidance and as a means to incorporate | |
| C3.05 | 3.5.1 in a whole of community approach. | |
| C3.05 | 3.5.2 Measures to protect such sites and natural features are agreed, documented, and implemented through Culturally appropriate engagement* with Tangata whenua*. If Tangata whenua* determine that physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would threaten the value or protection of the sites, then other means will be applied to ensure their protection. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C3.05 | 3.5.3 Wherever sites and natural features of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance are newly observed or discovered, management activities that could affect these sites cease immediately in the vicinity until protective measures have been agreed to with Tangata whenua*, in accordance with any existing local laws. | |

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| C3.06 | 3.6.1 Traditional knowledge and intellectual property are protected and are only used when the acknowledged owners of that traditional knowledge and intellectual property have provided their Free, Prior, and Informed Consent formalized through a binding agreement. | | |
| C3.06 | 3.6.2 Tangata whenua* are compensated according to the binding agreement* reached through Free, Prior and Informed Consent for the use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property. | | |
| C4.01 | 4.1.1 Local communities that exist in the management unit and those that may be affected by management activities are identified. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C4.01 | 4.1.2 Through Culturally appropriate engagement* with the local communities, identified in 4.1.1 the following are documented and/or mapped: 1) Their legal and customary rights of tenure; their legal and customary access to, and use rights, of the forest resources and ecosystem services; 3) their legal and customary rights and obligations that apply; 4) the evidence supporting these rights and obligations; 5) areas where rights are contested between local communities, governments and/or others; 6) summary of how the legal and customary rights, and contested rights are addressed by The Organisation; and 7) the aspirations and goals of local communities related to management activities and the effects of these. | | |
| C4.02 | 4.2.1 Through Culturally appropriate engagement* local communities are informed of when, where, and how they can comment on and request modification to management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights. | | |
| C4.02 | 4.2.2 The legal and customary rights of local communities are not violated by The Organisation. 4.2.3 Where evidence exists that legal and customary rights of | | |
| C4.02 | local communities related to management activities have been violated the situation is corrected, if necessary, through Culturally appropriate engagement* and/or through the dispute resolution process* in Criteria 1.6 or 4.6. | | |
| C4.02 | 4.2.4 Free, Prior, and Informed Consent is granted by local communities prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes: 1) Ensuring local communities know their rights and obligations regarding the resource and its qualities and the impacts of and risks posed by the management activities 2) Informing the local communities of the value and risks, in economic, social and environmental terms, of the resource and environment over which they are considering delegation of control 3) Informing the local communities of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect rights and resources; and 4) Informing the local communities of the current and future planned forest management activities. | | |
| C4.03 | 4.3.1 Reasonable opportunities are, communicated and provided to local communities, local contractors and local suppliers for: 1) Employment; 2) training; and 3) other services. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C4.04 | 4.4.1 Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified through Culturally appropriate engagement* with local communities and other relevant organisations. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | MFM employ a range of staff who engage in culturally appropriate engagement with local communities and other organisations including several people who are of Indigenous decent and/or are able to converse in the local language. Waikato River trail and the Tokoroa Mountain bike Park and three iwi led biodiversity projects supported by MFM (Raukumara Pae Maunga Trust) applied a 1080 drop to return the Raukumara range to original state and received funding assistance from MFM clients. The Pikariki Project in the Maraeroa C lands in the area and again are being supported by MFM clients who have contributed to the project. OIO approvals generally have recreational access conditions attached (Wainui Forest) have a motor bike trail ride events that access the forest. During interview with the Environment Manager, examples of past engagement were cited with the auditor being provided written notes of a Aotea community meeting and explanation of the Generation Program, which is an engagement and employment program managed by the Central Island Wood Council in conjunction with locals. | Yes |
| C4.04 | 4.4.2 Projects and activities are implemented and/or supported that contribute to local social and economic benefit and are proportionate to the socio-economic impact of management activities. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | During interview with the Environment Manager, the Generation Program, which is an engagement and employment program managed by the Central Island Wood Council in conjunction with locals is strongly supported by MFM. MFM has extended the contract term for works, services and log supplies where these are beneficial to local companies wanting to establish, expand and invest. A five-year wood supply agreement is in place between MFM and Red Stag Sawmills that provided confidence for Red Stag to upgrade its log processing facility on the North Island. Contracts can be multiyear for most activities and range from 2-5 years. | Yes |

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| | 4.4.3 The Organisation seeks to enable different types of recreational access and use by the community, and taking account of any | During interview with the Environmental Manager, it was confirmed that MFM provide access to recreational users on most freehold forests. Kinleith and Woodhill Forests have high levels of recreational access. | |
| C4.04 | constraints of legal, safety, environmental protection, economic protection and landowner requirements. The Organisation has a process to address requests for recreational access. Verifier: A process to address requests for recreational access. | There are applications for mountain bike parks in Waipu from the local community, also in Dobbs Forest in Taumaranui. There is a quarrying operation in Kinleith for Kitty Litter production. Recreational access is a normal condition of the Overseas Investment Office who approve Manulife overseas investments in New Zealand | Yes |
| C4.04 | 4.4.4 Large A public-access policy and/or plan has been developed and is periodically reviewed in consultation* with recreational and community representative groups and affected stakeholders. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | During the audit, the auditor reviewed the MFMNZ Access Policy 2019 (includes insurance requirements, hazard identification for parties that wish to access the forest) and the Security Policy (deals with criminal offences in the forest) | Yes |
| C4.04 | 4.4.5 Access, including recreational access through forestry* areas to adjacent land, is provided in consultation* with the affected landowners. | Access to Department of Conservation land is allowed if the correct permit is attained and an induction completed. This may apply to hunters wishing to access adjacent land. Landowners that access their own land through MFM estates would have a legal easement agreement. DOC and MFM both have an easement to the Mokaihaha Reserve in the Kinleith Forest and shifted the forest gate to allow better access and parking to the to the reserve. This allows people to access the DOC estate without a permit and to support DOC. | Yes |
| C4.05 | 4.5.1 Through Culturally appropriate engagement* with local communities, measures are implemented to identify, avoid and mitigate negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities. | MFM uses a two-phase approach to mitigating negative social, environmental and economic issues, Firstly, minor incidents are fixed immediately where possible. Secondly, more significant issues or those that take longer to fix are documented in the Velocity Incident Log and tracked for closure. To avoid negative social, environmental and economic issues, MFM uses feedback from its plantation monitoring programs and stakeholder engagement to forward plan solutions to potential issues, resulting in an extended travel route for cultural ceremonies. If a ceremony occurs at a marae, MFM security contractors opened gates for community members to travel the plantation routes enabling a significant shortcut that reduces the cost of attending ceremonies. The AEEs developed by MFM document social impacts including negative impacts (trucks on roads, dust, noise and physical presence – noise etc) Reviewed the Raukara General Access policy to allow a busload of shareholders to visit Taitaia Pa. Dustblock is applied to gravel roads in the Northland Region to mitigate road impacts near houses. There is a road intersection at Aotea Forest which has delayed the clear fall harvest, MFM are in discussions with Land Transport NZ (Waka Kotahi). | Yes |
| C4.06 | 4.6.1 A publicly available dispute resolution process* is in place, modified where necessary with Culturally appropriate engagement* with affected local communities. | | |
| C4.06 | 4.6.2 Grievances related to the impacts of management activities are responded to in a timely manner and are either resolved or are in the dispute resolution process*. | | |
| C4.06 | 4.6.3 An up-to-date record of grievances related to the impacts of management activities is held including: 1) The nature of the grievance and parties involved; 2) steps taken to resolve grievances; 3) outcomes of all Dispute resolution processes* including fair compensation consistent with New Zealand law; and 4) Unresolved grievances and the reasons why they are not resolved and how they will be resolved. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex; J. | | |
| C4.06 | 4.6.4 Operations cease in areas while disputes exist: 1) Of substantial magnitude*; or 2) of substantial duration*; or 3) involving a significant number of interests. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C4.07 | 4.7.1 Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which local communities hold legal or customary rights are identified through Culturally appropriate engagement* and are recognized by The Organisation. | | |
| C4.07 | 4.7.2 Measures to protect such sites are agreed, documented and implemented through Culturally appropriate engagement* with local communities. If local communities determine that physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would threaten the value or protection of the sites, then other means will be used. | | |
| C4.07 | 4.7.3 Whenever sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance are newly observed or discovered, management activities cease immediately in the vicinity until protective measures have been agreed. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C4.08 | 4.8.1 Traditional knowledge and intellectual property are protected and are only used when the owners of that traditional knowledge and intellectual property have provided their Free, Prior and Informed Consent formalized through a binding agreement. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C4.08 | 4.8.2 Local communities are compensated according to the binding agreement reached through Free, Prior and Informed Consent for the use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property. | | |

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| C5.01 | 5.1.1 The range of resources and ecosystem services that could strengthen and diversify the local economy and environment are identified. | MFM completed a report that attempted to measure ecosystem services from the estate. The range of resources strengthens and matches the range of domestic markets. MFM do not provide ecosystem services within the scope of certification. MFM USA has almost completed a Natural Capital Accounts programme and is considering rolling this out globally. This includes a "willingness to pay" and the quantification of biodiversity values to the community, this builds on work by MFM NZ 5 years ago. The MFM Sustainability Report includes mention of natural accounting. The modelling allows Manulife to identify, produce and enable the production of diversified benefits and/or products based on the range of resources and ecosystem services existing in the management unit in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy. MFM provided a customer list that identifies 23 local purchasers of its forest products including sawlog, plywood logs. | Yes |
| C5.01 | 5.1.2 Consistent with management objectives and the scale of The Organisation, The Organisation produces and makes available opportunities to produce benefits and products to strengthen and diversify the local economy and environment. | The range of resources strengthens and matches the range of domestic markets. During interview, the Resource Manager confirmed that yield modelling is used to forecast production that benefits domestic consumers who make up more than half of resource sales. There are also a range of businesses operating alongside the forests that benefit from the estate, mountain bike trails, a motorcycle business in Tokoroa and the Waikato River Trails Trust, the Woodhill Mountain Bike Park, A high ropes course in Woodhill (Woodhill Tree Adventures. Also, a commercial possum trapping and the Halo Whakatane trapping programme to improve kiwi populations. The MFM Sales & Marketing Manager provided a customer list that shows MFM has 23 local purchasers of its forest products including sawlog, plywood logs, poles, fencing and pulp logs. | Yes |
| C5.01 | 5.1.3 When The Organization uses FSC Ecosystem services* Claims, The Organization complies with applicable requirements in FSC-PRO-30-006. | MFM do not provide ecosystem services as this is provided by the landowners with whom MFM forestry rights. | Yes |
| C5.02 | 5.2.1 Timber harvesting volumes are based on an analysis of current Best Available Information* on growth and yield; inventory of the forest; mortality rates; and maintenance* of ecosystem functions*. | Manulife uses Woodstock as its software program for forest estate modelling used for long term plans and financial analyses. The inventory is taken from data into Woodstock. The modelling is used to consider operational constraints, woodflows, catchment constraints, changes in ownership structure, wood supply agreements and management strategy. The modelling allows Manulife to forecast sustainable timber yields. The factors that lead to variation to the annual timber yield are described in the document Derivation of Annual Allowable Harvest Levels 2023, Mortality rates are built into the growth models from field assessment in sample plots. Woodstock modelling goes for 80 years | Yes |
| C5.02 | 5.2.2 Large and medium Based on the timber harvesting level* analysis, a maximum allowable annual cut for timber is determined that does not exceed the harvest level that can be permanently sustained including by ensuring that harvest rates do not exceed inter-rotational growth. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | Harvesting is planned and executed to match the long-term plan as closely as practical. Where windthrow has occurred this obviously causes a deviation to the long-term plan which then has to be adjusted. Manulife uses Woodstock as its software program for forest estate modelling used for long term plans and financial analyses. The modelling is used to consider operational constraints, changes in ownership structure, wood supply agreements and management strategy. The modelling allows Manulife to forecast sustainable timber yields. Manulife uses Woodstock as its software program for forest estate modelling used for long term plans and financial analyses. The modelling is used to consider operational constraints, changes in ownership structure, wood supply agreements and management strategy. The modelling allows Manulife to forecast sustainable timber yields. Yield tables for stands near harvest age are derived from stand level preharvest inventory. Confirmed the 2024 harvest is expected to be 3.8 million m3, this is planned to increase to about 4.1 million from 2025 and remain flat until 2029, when it increases again to reach a peak of 4.7 million by 2032, the final year of harvest for Tiaki estate. Therearfier, the level fluctuates between 3.8 million and 4.5 million m3/year. The harvest levels are seen in graphs in the document titled Derivation of Annual Allowable Harvest Levels and are estimated out to 2050. | Yes |
| C5.02 | 5.2.3 Small Harvesting of the entire forest can occur in one stage, so long as ecosystem services* are maintained. Actual harvest rates are recorded. | N/A | N/A |
| C5.02 | 5.2.4 Actual annual harvest volumes for timber are recorded and the harvest over a defined period does not exceed the allowable cut determined in 5.2.2 or 5.2.3 for the same defined period. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. NTFP 5.2.5 For extraction of commercially harvested services and non-timber forest products under The Organisation's control a sustainable harvest level is calculated and adhered to, except for removal/elimination of pest' species. Sustainable harvest levels are based on Best Available Information*. NTFP 5.2.6 A record is kept of the annual harvest rate for each NTFP harvested. NTFP 5.2.7 (applicable for honey and other bee products) bees only takes place in cases of lack of natural food sources, due to climatic conditions or alike, e.g. during mixter periods. When bee families are fed, a log book is kept for each bee family/beehive, including: 1) Food product fed, e.g. sugar; 2) Amount fed; and | The harvest rate for each client's forests is established in the long-term plan based on modelling of the estate, taking into account inventory and growth and yield predictions and any relevant constraints. This builds up a long-term prediction of optimum harvest rates which are documented in the long-term plan and signed off at the board level. Harvesting is planned and executed to match the long-term plan as closely as practical. Where windthrow has occurred this obviously causes a deviation to the long-term plan which then has to be adjusted No NTFP are harvested within the scope of certification from the MFM NZ estate. | Yes |

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| C5.03 | 5.3.1 Large Costs related to preventing, mitigating, or compensating for negative social and environmental impacts of management activities are included in the management plan. | MFM identifies the budget forecast for prevention, mitigation or compensation for negative social and environmental impacts of management activities through its process of conducting are now part of the AEE, an example is the at Waimiha Forest who approached MFM as the water supply was coming from the forest and MFM installed a new water pipeline and UV filters in the sport facilities. The Tokoroa Mountain bike track harvesting is being scheduled with the club an the remaining 30 hectares will be harvested to minimise impacts and to upgrade bike tracks The Waikato River Bike trust requested MFM delay harvesting until after bike events had been held. The auditor also viewed the budget sheets for non-harvesting activities where the large costs related to preventing, mitigating, or compensating for negative social and environmental impacts of management activities are included. The actual SAI has been merged with the AEE (assessment of Environmental Impacts) | Yes |
| C5.03 | 5.3.2 Large Benefits related to positive social and environmental impacts of management activities are identified and included in the management plan. | As part of the document review, positive social and environmental impacts of management activities and are then included in various plans (Harvesting Notes, Traffic Management Plans) that form part of the overall management plan. Examples of positive social benefits include improved road access to communities, employment, training opportunities. | Yes |
| C5.04 | 5.4.1 Where cost, quality and capacity are at least equivalent to non-local options, local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are used. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | MFM has a policy of employing local contractors and purchasing local goods and services. Crews can be relocated to follow harvest operations. Local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are used whenever available and practicable to use as this optimises the efficiency of MFM operations. During interview, MFM confirmed they engage regularly with communities to provide services as this enhances the company's reputation and meets joint expectations from social impact assessments. Harvest volumes are offered to domestic customers before export volumes are finalised. | Yes |
| C5.04 | 5.4.2 Reasonable attempts are made to establish and encourage capacity where local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are not available. | MFM uses its capacity to provide preferential support of local processors. During interview, the Environmental Manager quoted the example of Red Stag being provided a long-term wood supply agreement prior to the upgrade of its timber mill in Whakarewarewa. There are five long term agreements, vary in length. (Red Stag- no finite term). The remain are with Oji Fibre 2029 with extensions to 2048 with certain conditions regarding volumes etc. All other domestic customers are rolling three years with quarterly reviews regarding volume and price. The split between local processing and export vary according to market requirements but are almost 50/50 at the time of the audit. | Yes |
| C5.05 | 5.5.1 Sufficient funds are allocated to implement the management plan to meet this standard and to ensure long-term economic viability. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | The annual budget processes, explained by the Environmental Manager, shows that sufficient funds are allocated to implement the management plan to meet the requirements of the FSC standard and to ensure long-term economic viability. The weekly Cash Flow Forecast annual budget and long term 5year plan all contribute to financial information. There is a weekly cashflow statement for each client. Reviewed week ending 20/1/24 for Taumata Plantations. Reviewed the annual budget for the Houpoto Wetland (\$5K) in the 2023-2024 Environmental Budget estimates. Interviewed the Finance Manager and reviewed the Statement of operations — Plan Taumata Plantation 2024, a budget process is competed annually, driven by the harvest schedule which then feeds into the Sales plan, this then gives distribution costs and net revenue for both domestic and export sales. It also includes forest management expenditures, mensuration, trials, protection, fire etc. The net operating cash flow is the final part of the process and this is reviewed quarterly brief reforecast, adjust the forecasting monthly if required. | Yes |
| C5.05 | 5.5.2 Expenditures and investments are made to implement the management plan in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term economic viability. | The annual budget processes, explained by the Environmental Manager explained that an environmental budget is completed every year, that feeds into the overall annual budget. Reviewed Environmental Cost for Taumata 2023 -24 that includes multiple entries but does show a line item for Forest Certification, research, pest control and reserves work, this is broken down into projects shows that sufficient funds are allocated to implement the management plan to meet the requirements of the FSC standard and to ensure long-term economic viability. There is an Environmental budget for each client completed by all departments that then gives the overall annual budget. | Yes |
| C6.01 | 6.1.1 Best Available Information* is used to identify environmental values within, and, where potentially affected by management activities, outside of the management unit. | | |
| C6.01 | 6.1.2 Assessments of environmental values are conducted with a level of detail and frequency so that: 4) Impacts of management activities on the identified environmental values can be assessed as per Criterion 6.2; 5) risks to environmental values can be identified as per Criterion 6.2; 6) necessary conservation measures to protect values can be identified as per Criterion 6.3; and, 7) monitoring of impacts or environmental changes can be conducted as per Principle 8. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C6.01 | 6.1.3 Large Fine level evaluation* of conservation zones and protection areas is progressively undertaken appropriate to scale to determine viability and establish specific management requirements of poorly represented areas. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |

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| C6.01 | 6.1.4 All assessments of ecological value and actions are recorded and identified on maps and used to inform future implementation at harvest time, where applicable. | | |
| C6.02 | 6.2.1 A documented environmental impact assessment* identifies potential present and future impacts of management activities on environmental values, from the stand level to the landscape level. | | |
| C6.02 | 6.2.2 This assessment process occurs before the start of site- disturbing activities taking into account the interaction with adjoining land, nearby habitats and downstream impacts. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.1 Measures seeking to prevent negative impacts are planned, documented, and implemented to protect environmental values prior to the commencement of works. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.2 The Organisation has safeguards in place to minimise adverse effects on environmental values. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.3 The Organisation has written guidelines to: 1) Control accelerated erosion that may occur because of the removal of vegetation; 2) avoid or minimise riparian area damage during harvesting, road construction, or other mechanical disturbances; and 3) enable protection of water resources within and downstream of the management unit including specifying wetlands*, water body and streamside protection zones in which harvesting and other disturbance are prohibited or minimised. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.4 Large The Organisation operates and documents a decision support | | |
| C6.03 | system* to manage operations in high-risk areas. 6.3.5 Road and track construction is prohibited in conservation zones and protection areas, except where: 1) It can be demonstrated that this is the best environmental solution to an access issue; 2) It is part of a habitat restoration plan designed to meet the objectives of the protection zone; and 3) a track is part of a recreation or nature interpretation activity and does not adversely affect the objectives of the protection zone. Verifiers: Roads and tracks within conservation zones and protection areas documented in management plans with their purpose and justification and associated mitigation activities. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.6 A record is kept of any adverse impacts that occur to identified environmental values. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.7 Where negative impacts to environmental values occur, measures are adopted that seek to prevent further damage, and negative impacts are mitigated and/or repaired. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C6.03 | 6.3.8 A record is kept identifying corrective actions where non- compliance with prescriptions occurs and records: Change in future activities that will prevent similar impacts occurring; | | |
| C6.04 | 2) Actions were taken to mitigate the negative impact. 6.4.1 Best Available Information* is used to identify rare and threatened species, and their habitats, including CITES species (where applicable) and those listed on national, regional and local lists of rare and threatened species that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the management unit. | The auditor reviewed the EMS Manual chapter 11, Rare, threatened and endangered species management, and confirmed that it contains a section on RTE species management. This includes provisions to identify and manage RTE species that either permanently reside in or are dependent on habitat within the MFM estates. RTE species occur both in indigenous and plantation habitats. The MFM RTE Species Register lists all RTE species identified within the estates and includes high level management actions for each species where required. No CITES species are harvested from the estate. RTE species identified using the Department of Conservation Threatened Species list, historical data on RTE sightings as well as ecologist reports | Yes |
| C6.04 | 6.4.2 Generic policy and plans for the maintenance of populations of rare or threatened species within the management unit are prepared and progressively updated in consultation with competent experts. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | and ongoing monitoring. MFM uses industry level guides for RTE species management wherever they are relevant and available (Falcon, Kiwi Long tailed bats and a lizard species). These guides are developed by external people. Sighted several publications for RTE species that use plantation habitat during their lifecycle: - Bats in Plantations: Forest Management Guidance, March 18 (FOA) - Kiwis for Kiwi Forestry Guidelines – Save the Kiwi organisation. - NZ Falcon Management Guide Plantation Forestry (NZFOA) | Yes |
| C6.04 | 6.4.3 Indigenous habitat within, adjacent to and/or downstream of the management unit that supports or is likely to support rare or threatened species and may be affected by The Organisation's activities is identified in management planning. Guidance: Refer to 6.1.1. | The auditor reviewed the ARCgis system maps showing indigenous habitat reserves layer for Waikawa reserve where hochsetter frogs are found. MFM are retiring complete catchments in Waikawa for various reasons (Steepness) but including RTE species presence. | Yes |
| C6.04 | 6.4.4 Potential impacts of management activities on rare and threatened species and their habitats are identified, and management activities are modified to avoid negative impacts on the viability of the populations. Guidance: Refer to 6.2.1. | The RTE species register states impacts of management activities on RTE species. E.g. when harvesting crews confirm falcon are present in cutover, harvesting operations can be moved. Buffer zones can be increased for aquatic RTEs if found | Yes |
| C6.04 | 6.4.5 Rare and threatened species and their habitats within the management unit are protected, including through the provision of habitat maintenance, conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity, and other direct means for their survival and viability, such as species' recovery programs. | MFM develop site specific management plans where necessary. Reviewed the Waikawa Forest Threatened Species Management Plan (April 2019) which contains several RTE species eg Hochstetter frog, brown kiwi and long tailed bats. The Plan was developed in conjunction with the Department of Conservation. Reviewed the MFM Stewardship Projects summary 2023. MFM are achieving landscape level predator control (Northland has 12,000 hectares under predator control. The whio project in Waituhi is continuing with trapping continues. The Kiwi projects in Northland are also continuing (six forests with predator control) The EMS encourages contractors to report RTE species sightings. Reviewed the RTE Species Sightings – National Record from 2000 to 2024 lists sightings by staff or contractors | Yes |

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| C6.04 | 6.4.6 Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of rare or threatened species is prevented. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | Forest access is restricted by locked gates overnight, no known issues. If a forest doesn't have active operations gates are locked all the time, as confirmed during site visit and interview with the environmental manager. Forest security is in place including locked gates and surveillance by security contractors. Illegal activities are notified to the police, including following up with police to try to ensure that appropriate action is undertaken. All forest sites visited during the audit have gates that are locked overnight. The Environmental Manager noted that there is a security firm engaged to undertake security patrols, confirmed by contractors. There are security patrols in all regions. Gate keys are issued, and police can be involved if required. | Yes |
| C6.04 | 6.4.7 The need for wildlife corridors for rare and threatened species is assessed within the ecological landscape* and existing and established corridors (based on the outcomes of the assessment) are managed to promote the viability of these species). | The RTE species register reviews the need for wildlife corridors. Two areas serve as wildlife corridors Whatoro kiwi project predator control area to connect two significant DOC reserves and Kokoko predator control in between DOC reserves. MFM reviewed the need for wildlife corridors for each of the RTE species. (Kiwi and falcon do not require one). Reviewed the Species Sighting list that includes the review of need for wildlife corridors. | Yes |
| C6.04 | 6.4.8 Wildlife corridors for rare and threatened species are: 1) identified on management maps and 2) wildlife corridors for rare and threatened species identified within production areas are detailed in harvest plans with appropriate management actions considered Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | The GIS systems maps all reserves and predator control areas as reviewed for the Whatoro reserve. The Whatoro and Kookao reserves aren't in production areas and are mapped in the GIS System. The auditor reviewed the ARCgis system maps showing indigenous habitat reserves layer for Waikawa reserve where hochsetter frogs are found. MFM are retiring complete catchments in Waikawa for various reasons (Steepness) but including RTE species presence. | Yes |
| C6.05 | 6.5.1 Best Available Information* is used to identify native ecosystems that exist or would exist under natural conditions within the management unit. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.2 Representative Sample Areas of native ecosystems are protected, where they exist. | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.3 Where Representative Sample Areas do not exist, or where existing sample areas inadequately represent native ecosystems, or are otherwise insufficient, a proportion of the management unit is restored progressively to more natural conditions. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.4 Large and medium The size of the Representative Sample Areas and/or restoration areas is proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, the size of the management unit, and the viability of the Representative Sample Area. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.5 Where modified threatened significant environments* 1 or 2, wetland* or duneland* areas occur within the management unit they are documented together with efforts to restore them progressively. | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.6 An area equivalent to or exceeding 10% of the area of the management unit is identified, mapped, and managed as conservation areas network*. | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.7 The Organisation has developed a detailed plan to achieve the requirements of 6.5.6. | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.8 At least 10% of the area of the management unit in each ecological district" (overlapping with the management unit), and if not possible, each ecological region*, is identified, mapped and managed as a conservation areas network*; any shortfall (at the ecological district* or ecological region* level) is made up through equivalent ecological effort* (without compromising the requirements of 6.5.6). Guidance: Annex C provides instructions for calculating conservation area network* areas. | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.9 Where equivalent ecological effort* is required to meet the 10% CAN requirement at the ecological district*, or ecological region* level (as outlined in 6.5.7) within the management unit, The Organisation has documented the process used, demonstrating that consideration was given to all practical options of equivalent ecological effort*, and in the stated order of priority. Guidance: Annex C provides instructions for calculating conservation area network* areas. | | |
| C6.05 | 6.5.10 The Organisation records conservation areas network* management actions. 6.6.1 Management activities ensure maintenance of the plant | | |
| C6.06 | communities and habitats found within native ecosystems in which the management unit is located. | | |

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| | 6.6.1a Management activities designed to ensure the maintenance of plant and animal communities and habitats found within native ecosystems | Reviewed the Reserves Management Plan has evolved into the Stewardship Projects Plan. Reviewed the Reserves Layer in the GIS database. Reserves management is also described in the EMS. All reserves are protected and scrutinized when doing operational planned. These are identified on the harvest plans and protected as much as possible. Any damage is minimised. Reviewed the Reserves layer that includes the ecological significance of the reserves. The reviewed harvest plan 5606 Roe Hillside map that shows reserve areas with an SNA in the block that MFM is seeking a resource consent, there is some doubt that MFM will be able to harvest all areas, an ecologist has examined the SNA and is reporting to MFM. Existing tracking can be used but if native vegetation is impacted a resource consent is required. | |
| C6.06 | within the management unit are detailed in planning documents and implemented. | Harvest plans identify reserve areas and harvest plans are reviewed by the environmental Team before operational plans are finally approved. | Yes |
| | | The Whatoro Reserve Management plan (2022) reviewed which identifies ongoing animal and plant pest control as the most important management operations. The Annual monitoring report notes that these are ongoing with animal trapping numbers recorded and kiwi call counts increasing. Reviewed trapping location maps | |
| | | Gates and security in place to restrict forest access. Landowners usually manage forest access and pig/deer (non-native) hunting rights for non-freehold land. | |
| C6.06 | 6.6.2 Active restoration* or activities in excess of maintenance are detailed in planning documents and implemented. | See 6.6.1 | Yes |
| C6.06 | 6.6.3 Maintenance actions and active restoration* are progressively undertaken to support the maintenance and enhancement of ecological functions including ecosystem regeneration and species diversity. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | Pines and willows are progressively removed from reserve areas (Moorhouse road – Central region. | Yes |
| | | The reserve network is in the main dictated by where reserve areas remained when the forests were established. In total the MFM (NZ) estate includes 32,500ha of protected reserve (18% of the estate area). | |
| 00.00 | 6.6.4 Management maintains, enhances, or restores habitat | The reserve network is added to over time when areas are retired, most commonly to increase riparian setbacks and retire topography that is unsuitable for productive use. | V |
| 6.6.4 Management maintains, enhances, or restores habitat features* associated with native ecosystems, to support the diversity of naturally occurring species and their genetic diversity. Visited the Matai Reserve area that is newly proposed HCV area purposes and is part of a recent addition to the OTPP forests ma MFM NZ. This area is already covered by a QE II Trust Covenant means there is an agreement between the Trust and a landowne protect land forever. The landowner (OTPP) continues to own an | Visited the Matai Reserve area that is newly proposed HCV area for FSC purposes and is part of a recent addition to the OTPP forests managed MFM NZ. This area is already covered by a QE II Trust Covenant which means there is an agreement between the Trust and a landowner to protect land forever. The landowner (OTPP) continues to own and manage the protected land, and the covenant and protection stays on the land, even when the property is sold to a new owner. | Yes | |
| | | All Special Biodiversity Values (SBV) are identified in GIS and processes are in place to ensure they are identified during planning of operations, identified on harvest plans and work prescriptions and controls put in place to minimize impacts as far as practical. | |
| | | Where damage cannot be avoided during harvest (greater than minor edge damage) then the productive area boundary is reviewed during replant planning and if necessary adjusted to increase setbacks. Reserves are monitored annually, and restoration is undertaken | |
| C6.06 | 6.6.5 Before harvest, adjacent areas of existing habitat for rare and threatened species or representative sample ecosystems are assessed, and where appropriate, active restoration* undertaken following harvest. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | progressively. During the audit field visits the auditor visited the Houpoto Wetland, this is a significant wetland HCV feature within Houpoto Forest that is monitored by Manulife annually. The wetland is in very good condition, with only a few wilding pines required to be removed. Discussions are ongoing with the landowners in relation to options to manage or improve the feature. | Yes |
| | | As stated above the auditor also reviewed a small area of native vegetation in the middle of compartment 10584 where the contractor made four different moves with a harvest line hauler (low impact harvesting) around the area of native and there were no impacts to the vegetation at all seen by the auditor. | |
| C6.06 | 6.6.6 The Organisation records conservation area network* management actions for individual or ecologically related reserves. | MFM record Management actions in the annual management plans. Reviewed budget items for each environmental project including reserve areas, the Stewardship Projects Summary and the HCV Monitoring reports confirming management action are recorded. Reviewed the HCVF Annual monitoring Form for Taupo Wetland, Tuhoe Forest (OTPP) dated 27/9/23. | Yes |
| C6.06 | 6.6.7 Effective measures are taken to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collecting activities and other recreational activities to ensure that naturally occurring native species, their diversity within species and their natural distribution are maintained and not compromised. | Freehold forests are open to recreational clubs eg hunting, biking, horseriding. Managed by MFM with H&S inductions and permits. Hunting of exotic pest animals only. All hunters in Northland require their dogs to have had (Kiwi aversion training). Goats are an issue in Waimiha Forest (King Country) these are destroyed as frequently as possible both professionally and by recreational hunters. | Yes |
| C6.07 | 6.7.1 Riparian zones of a minimum of 10m each side of the water body are identified and documented on all water bodies that have permanent water when forested. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.2 No commercial afforestation is undertaken in riparian zones, with the exceptions described in 6.7.4. | | |

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| C6.07 | 6.7.3 At replanting The Organisation assesses whether any additional setback* is possible beyond the existing stump-line without creating an area or areas of deforestation under the Climate Change Response Act and Climate Change Regulations. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.4 [Large/Medium] Where it is possible to setback without creating deforestation under 6.7.3, no commercial replanting is undertaken in riparian zones except where catchment planning has been undertaken and one of two exemption options to manage replanting setbacks is implemented: Option 1 exemption: The Organisation has a Riparian Decision Support System* specified within the Management Plan that: a) addresses in-stream environmental conditions to maintain long term aquatic values and; | |
| #VALUE! | b) allows commercial replanting within the riparian zone of any 3rd order stream catchment where it reaches more than 100m into the MU, and does not exceed 20% of the length of streams in that catchment. Option 2 exemption: A minimum 25m continuous setback (each side) is applied on any 3rd order stream (where it reaches more than 100m into the MU) to the top of its sub-catchment that includes at least one significant headwater, and all other tributaries on that stream must have a minimum 5m setback and be replanted no closer than the previous planted stump line. Veriflers: Mapped 3rd order stream catchments. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.5 Small Where a continuous cover regime is used in a riparian zone and adjoining forest, species suitable for indigenous habitat and protection of riparian values may be planted and harvested in that riparian zone only when in-stream values are not compromised by this activity. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.6 Where plantation planting has been undertaken within a riparian | |
| #VALUE! | zone, evidence of the assessments carried out in the riparian decision support system* are recorded along with resulting effects on aquatic values. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.7 Any vegetation felled within the riparian zone is felled away from the water body, except where safety practices require it. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.8 All practicable steps are taken to avoid dragging logs or trees through the bed of a flowing river, lake or wetland or the sea. Where this is planned to occur, documentation of the decision-making process is recorded. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.9 The decision-making process includes examination of alternative harvesting methods away from the waterway or use of haul corridors to minimise the stream reach affected. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.10 Where vegetation is cleared within a designated riparian zone, regeneration of suitable riparian vegetation is promoted. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.11 Where riparian clearance has been as a result of harvest activities then a re-planting plan details actions that seek to avoid riparian clearance or minimise damage in the next harvest cycle. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.12 No earthworks are undertaken within riparian zones, except: 1) In association with designated stream crossings; 2) Where it is maintenance of an existing road; 3) Where a topographical constraint leaves no alternative for the formation of a road; 4) In emergencies such as firefighting. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.13 Steps are taken to ensure disturbed vegetation, soil or debris are deposited or contained to prevent, with the exception of major storm events, the: 1) Diversion, damming or blockage of any river or stream; 2) passage of fish being impeded; 3) destruction of any habitat in a water body or coastal water; 4) flooding or erosion; and 5) downstream property damage. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.14 The Organisation complies with any conditions established in resource consents* and relevant codes of practice including conditions required by permitted activities under the NES – PF. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.15 Where continued degradation exists to water bodies, and water quality caused solely or partially by forestry* activities, measures are implemented that prevent or mitigate this degradation. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.16 In pre-harvest* planning a risk assessment of erosion susceptibility and potential effected values is undertaken to determine where potential erosion risk is very high. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.17 In areas identified as very high risk in 6.7.16 a pre-harvest* evaluation is undertaken to establish the most appropriate method to transition to forestry* practices that support soil stability on this land. This evaluation is documented and include consideration of: 1) Post-harvest retirement to suitable permanent vegetation; 2) transition to a continuous cover forest; 3) alternative species, silvicultural practices and regimes; and 4) retirement without harvest and encouragement of suitable long-term soil stability vegetation. | |

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| C6.07 | 6.7.18 Large and medium If areas identified in 6.7.16 are clear-felled then: 1) For replanting of plantation species that require clear fell harvesting a programme of erosion monitoring is undertaken covering the full rotation of the crop to determine effects, including identifying where sediment has reached water bodies; and 2) areas left to revert to an indigenous vegetation cover are monitored to ensure natural regeneration is occurring. Veriflers: Documented erosion monitoring following rainfall events (including 10% AEP or more intense storm events) over the course of the rotation, management practices and their relationship to erosion, particularly during the first six years following harvest. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.19 Small If plantation species that require clear fell harvesting are replanted within areas identified in 6.7.16 then a photographic record or similar form of monitoring is undertaken to determine soil erosion effects; or if the area is clear-felled and left to revert to indigenous vegetation it is monitored to ensure natural regeneration is occurring. Veriflers: Documentation of erosion monitoring following high rainfall events, and during the first six years following harvest, including: a. erosion sites (e.g. slips, stream bank erosion) and/or; b. water quality and/or; c. related weather events and/or; d. forestry* activity data. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.20 Afforestation in very high-risk erosion* areas is not conducted with species that requires clear felling. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.07 | 6.7.21 No storage or mixing of fuels, oils, chemicals, or similar substances is undertaken in areas where a deliberate or inadvertent discharge could enter any water body. | |
| C6.08 | 6.8.1 A varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales, and regeneration cycles is maintained appropriately to the landscape. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.08 | 6.8.2 The mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales, and regeneration cycles is maintained and/or restored where it has not been maintained appropriate to the landscape. | |
| C6.09 | 6.9.1 There is no conversion of natural forest to plantations, nor conversion of natural forests to non-forest land use, nor conversion of plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land use, except when the conversion: 1) Affects a very limited portion of the management unit; and 2) the conversion will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits in the management unit; and 3) does not damage or threaten high conservation values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those high conservation values. | |
| C6.09 | 6.9.2 Conversion of the areas of naturally occurring indigenous vegetation with the following characteristics to plantation is not conducted even within the limits established by 6.9.1: 1) Any area of 5 hectares or greater which has an actual or emerging predominance of naturally occurring indigenous tree species of any height. For this clause an indigenous tree species is defined as any woody plant which ultimately forms part of the canopy of a naturally occurring forest or any indigenous tree species that attains a diameter at breast height of 30cm or greater; 2) any natural indigenous forest vegetation, including riparian of between 1 and 5 hectares in area with an average canopy height of at least 6 m which is practical to protect. This recognises that in some instances some small pockets of native vegetation within a plantation forest management area cannot practically be protected from disturbance. However, viable stands will be excluded from clearance and reasonable effort made to ensure such areas are not damaged in subsequent forestry* operations; 3) any vegetation recommended for protection in a survey report in the Protected Natural Areas Programme or classified as a Site of Special Wildlife Interest (SSWI) in a published report of the former Wildlife Service; 4) significant Natural Areas (Areas recognised as significant indigenous vegetation or significant habitats of indigenous fauna) as defined in an operative District and Regional Plan under the Resource Management Act 1991; 5) indigenous habitat of rare, threatened or endangered species; 6) geopreservation* Sites as listed in The Geopreservation* Inventory; wetlands* as defined in the Resource Management Act 1991; vetlands* as defined in the Resource Management Act 1991; dunelands* where the primary vegetation is indigenous; 9) geothermal areas where there are indigenous plant communities adapted to geothermal conditions. | |
| C6.09 | 6.9.3 The following lands are not considered for conversion to plantation unless consultation* is undertaken with affected and interested stakeholders* and the respective measures do not violate the requirements of 6.9.1 or 6.9.2: 1) High-country tussock scrublands or herb fields as defined in MfE's LENZ* publication; 2) Coastal scrub and coastal herb fields with an indigenous plant content of greater than 30 per cent within the area being considered; 3) Any indigenous vegetation that is mapped as LENZ* Threatened Environment 1–3*; 4) Areas of indigenous vegetation within Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes identified in Regional and District Plans. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | |
| C6.09 | 6.9.4 Where conversion has taken place (within the allowed limits defined in 6.9.1), this is documented along with the relevant justifications. | |

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| C6.01 | 6.10.1 Based on Best Available Information*, accurate data is compiled on all conversions since 1994. | | |
| C6.01 | 6.10.2 Areas converted from natural forest to plantation since November 1994 are not certified, except where: 1) The Organisation provides clear and sufficient evidence that it was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion; or 2) The conversion is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits in the management unit; and 3) The total area of plantation on sites converted from natural forest since November 1994 is less than 5% of the total area of the management | | |
| C7.01 | unit. 7.1.1 Policies (vision and values) that contribute to meeting the requirements of this standard are defined. | | |
| C7.01 | 7.1.2 Specific, operational management objectives that address the requirements of this standard are defined. Guidance: Elements to be included in the management plan are listed in Annex D. | | |
| C7.01 | 7.1.3 Summaries of the defined policies and management objectives are included in the management plan and publicized. | | |
| C7.02 | 7.2.1 The management plan includes management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the management | | |
| C7.02 | objectives. 7.2.2 The management plan addresses the elements listed in Annex D and is implemented. NTFP 7.2.3 (applicable for hunting only) The management plan includes the following elements: 1) Policies and procedures for game managers. 2) Hygiene and food safety regulations in cases that the game is used for food. 3) Maps of all hunting areas. 4) Procedures for monitoring of the impacts of hunting. 5) A general evaluation of the ecological impact of hunting. 6) Procedures for processing, packing and sales (if applicable). | | |
| C7.03 | 7.3.1 Verifiable targets and the frequency that they are assessed, are established for monitoring the progress towards each management objective. | | |
| C7.04 | 7.4.1 The management plan is revised and updated periodically, consistent with Annex D to incorporate: 1) Monitoring results, including results of certification audits; 2) Evaluation results; 3) Stakeholder engagement results; 4) New scientific and technical information; and 5) Changing environmental, social, or economic circumstances. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C7.05 | 7.5.1 A summary of the management plan in a format understandable to stakeholders including maps and excluding Confidential information, is made publicly available at no cost. | | |
| C7.05 | 7.5.2 Relevant components of the management plan, excluding Confidential information, are available to affected stakeholders on request at the actual costs of reproduction and handling. | | |
| C7.06 | 7.6.1 Culturally appropriate engagement* is used to ensure that affected stakeholders are proactively and transparently engaged in the following processes: 1) Dispute resolution processes* (Criterion 1.6, Criterion 2.6, Criterion 4.6); 2) Identification of rights (Criterion 3.1, Criterion 4.1), sites (Criterion 3.5, Criterion 4.7) and impacts (Criterion 4.5); 3) Local communities* socio-economic development activities (Criterion 4.4); and 4) High conservationvalueassessment,managementand monitoring (Criterion 9.1, Criterion 9.2, Criterion 9.4). | During interview, the Environmental Manager described the process of using culturally appropriate engagement to ensure that affected stakeholders are proactively and transparently engaged in environmental issues. It was reported that the first stage of engagement is to allow the community to confirm who the appropriate representatives. There is engagement at a national level through National bodies (FOA) at the local level there is communication with local bodies, iwi, neighbours and landowners. During interview with the Environmental Manager, it was confirmed that MFM uses culturally appropriate engagement to engage with local communities on socio-economic activities. The process used to achieve this was the social impact assessment process but is now part of AEE process. The auditor noted the high level of Maori language understood and spoken by MFM staff, which facilitates culturally appropriate engagement. Community meetings can be arranged if there are sufficient number of impacted stakeholders (Morrisons, Te Rongoroa, Waimiha forests). | Yes |
| | 7.6.2 Culturally appropriate engagement* is used to: | The MFM NZ Monitoring Program 2023 details high conservation value forest assessment, management and monitoring, including: methodology, monitoring outcomes, party responsible for monitoring, monitoring frequency and report type. Social impact assessment is used to engage affected stakeholders through culturally appropriate communication. | |
| C7.06 | 1) Determine appropriate mandated representatives and contact points (including where 2) appropriate, local institutions, organizations and authorities); 3) Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both 4) directions; 5) Ensure all actors (women, youth, elderly, minorities) are represented and engaged equitably; 6) Ensure all meetings, all points discussed and all agreements reached are recorded; 7) Ensure the content of meeting records is approved; and 8) Ensure the results of all culturally appropriate engagement* activities are shared with those involved. | Stakeholder consultation has confirmed the importance of culturally appropriate face to face consultation. This remains important after the MFM restructuring 2021. Interviews with representatives Tangata whenua groups confirmed that MFM worked collaboratively with the community organisations to agree on communication channels and frequency. During interview, the Environmental Manager confirmed that is standard procedure for discussion points and agreements reached to be recorded. The auditor reviewed stakeholder engagement meetings for an Aotea community meeting and for Morrison Iwi consultation. The Iwi Representative receives a draft of the meeting minutes, approves these and returns them to MFM. Reviewed the communication records for Morrisons forest from 2021 to 2023 when road line harvesting commenced. | Yes |

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| | | Tangata whenua representatives have been identified for all forests that MFM NZ operates in. For maori lease forests the landowners generally also represent tangata whenua. MFM NZ regularly consults with tangata whenua in relation to cultural sites, but also broader issues such as biodiversity, water quality etc. (i.e.: Motu Bluffs) | |
| | | Section 9 of the EMS describes the procedures for managing cultural and archaeological sites. All recorded sites in the estate are recorded in the GIS mapping system, which includes all sites recorded in the NZ Archaeological Association Database and taken into account in planning of operations. Where possible, operations are planned to avoid or minimize damage to historic sites. | |
| C7.06 | 7.6.3 Affected stakeholders are provided with an opportunity for culturally appropriate engagement* in monitoring and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests. | MFM NZ have undertaken extensive consultation with iwi about the harvest of Aotea/Morrisons forest which covers significant cultural sites as confirmed by review of meeting minutes 2015-2022, Engagement has included meetings with mana whenua, onsite cultural inductions for crew and a Karakia on site. | Yes |
| | | All known sites are identified during the planning process and shown on harvest plans. MFM NZ also consults with tangata whenua in forests with high cultural values to identify any further wahi tapu and provide input to the process. Where there is potential for harvesting to impact on a site a Heritage NZ Authority is required, which includes an archaeological assessment and input from tangata whenua. The EMS covers management of wahi tapu sites during forest activities and what to do if new sites are discovered. At Aotea Forest any new discoveries are protected until reviewed by tangata whenua representatives and are protected going forward if deemed appropriate by tangata whenua. Harvesting is carried out following an agreed methodology set out in the | |
| | | harvest plan and then any sites that are deemed uneconomic to replant | |
| | | During interview with the Environmental Manager, it was confirmed that MFM has involved interested stakeholders in monitoring processes of management activities where involvement has been requested. Three examples of stakeholder involvement were quoted by the Environmental Manager; these are: at Aotea Forest, Kinleith Forest and Waikawa Forest. | |
| | 7.6.4 On request, interested stakeholders are provided with an opportunity for engagement in monitoring and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests. | MFM were arranging a field trip to Morrisons Forest for Tainui elders who have no direct involvement in Morrisons Forest. MFM are quite happy to engage with interested stakeholders. | |
| C7.06 | | Northland region use mail drops to advise stakeholders of impending harvest operations on an annual basis, this is because of the large geographical area of Northland and the scattered forest locations. Reviewed the list of interested stakeholders regarding a poison operation in the Central region. | Yes |
| | | Reviewed a letter to stakeholders regarding the purchase of Waonui Forest dated October 2023 advising people of traditional rights and OIO requirements to engage with lwi | |
| C8.01 | 8.1.1 Procedures are documented and executed for monitoring the implementation of the management plan including its policies and management objectives and achievement of verifiable targets. | | |
| C8.01 | 8.1.2 Persons responsible for implementing and maintaining monitoring programmes are identified. | | |
| C8.02 | 8.2.1 The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored consistent with Annex E. | | |
| C8.02 | 8.2.2 Changes in environmental conditions are monitored consistent with Annex E. NTFP 8.2.3 (applicable for hunting only) Areas where reintroduction, restocking programs or other animal releases take place are monitored to identify and mitigate potential adverse impacts. | | |
| C8.03 | 8.3.1 Adaptive management procedures are implemented so that monitoring results feed into periodic updates to the management plan. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J | | |
| C8.03 | 8.3.2 If monitoring results show non-conformities with the FSC Standard then management objectives, Verifiable targets and/or management activities are revised. | | |
| C8.04 | 8.4.1 A summary of the monitoring results consistent with Annex E, in a format understandable to stakeholders including maps and excluding Confidential information is made publicly available at no cost. | | |
| C8.04 | 8.4.2 When requested, additional information in sufficient detail is provided for the stakeholder to understand the nature and results of the monitoring. | | |
| C8.05 | 8.5.1 A system is implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified. | | |
| C8.05 | 8.5.2 Information about all products sold is compiled and documented, including: 1) The common and scientific species name 2) Product name or description 3) Volume (or quantity) of product 4) Information to trace the material to the source of origin logging block 5) Logging date 6) If basic processing activities take place in the forest, the date and | | |
| | volume produced; and 7) Whether or not the material was sold as FSC certified. | | |

| 19.04 Criterion Index | 19.01 Indicator Definition | 19.02 Observation | 19.03 Conformant? |
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| C8.05 | 8.5.3 Sales invoices or similar documentation are kept for a minimum of five years for all products sold with an FSC claim, which identify at a minimum, the following information: 1) Name and address of the purchaser 2) The date of sale 3) The common and scientific species name 4) Product description 5) The volume (or quantity) sold 6) Certificate code; and 7) The FSC Claim "FSC 100%" identifying products sold as FSC certified. NTFP 8.5.4 (applicable for honey and other bee products) It is demonstrated based on Best Available Information* or pollen analysis that at least 50% of the collected pollen originates from within the FSC certified MU before the honey can be sold with FSC claim: FSC 100%. NTFP 8.5.5 (applicable for animal products, except bee products) It is demonstrated based on Best Available Information* or other means (e.g. telemetric data) that the target species spent at least 50% of its lifespan within the FSC certified MU before the products can be sold with FSC claim: FSC 100%. | | |
| C9.01 | 9.1.1 An assessment is completed using Best Available Information* that records the location and status of High conservation value Categories 1-6, as defined in Criterion 9.1; the high conservation value areas* they rely upon (Annex H), and their condition. | | |
| C9.01 | 9.1.2 The assessment uses results from Culturally appropriate engagement* (Annex H) with affected and interested stakeholders with an interest in the conservation of the high conservation values. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C9.02 | 9.2.1 Threats* to high conservation values are identified using Best Available Information*. | | |
| C9.02 | 9.2.2 Management strategies and actions are developed to maintain and/or enhance the identified high conservation values and to maintain associated high conservation value areas* prior to implementing potentially harmful management activities. | | |
| C9.02 | 9.2.3 Affected and interested stakeholders and experts are engaged in the development of management strategies and actions to maintain and/or enhance the identified high conservation values. | | |
| C9.02 | 9.2.4 The strategies developed are effective to maintain and/or enhance the high conservation values. | | |
| C9.03 | 9.3.1 The high conservation values and the high conservation value areas* on which they depend are maintained and/or enhanced, including by implementing the strategies developed (Annex G). | | |
| C9.03 | 9.3.2 The strategies and actions prevent damage and avoid risks to high conservation values, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of high conservation values are uncertain. | | |
| C9.03 | 9.3.3 Activities that harm high conservation values cease immediately and actions are taken to restore and protect the high conservation values. | | |
| C9.04 | 9.4.1 A programme of periodic monitoring assesses: 1) Implementation of strategies 2) The status of high conservation values including high conservation value areas* on which they depend; and 3) The effectiveness of the management strategies and actions for the protection of high conservation value to fully maintain and/or enhance the high conservation values. | Annual monitoring is undertaken on each of the HCV areas. Reviewed the Kaikore Roto (Lake Road/Butler Road) HCVF Annual monitoring form dated 26.10.23 that includes photo point photos and a summary of environmental conditions. The GIS systems maps all reserves and predator control areas as reviewed for the Whatoro reserve. The Whatoro and Kokako reserves aren't in production areas and are mapped in the GIS System. The auditor reviewed the ARC GIS system maps showing indigenous habitat reserves layer for Waikawa reserve where hochsetter frogs are found. MFM are retiring complete catchments in Waikawa for various reasons (Steepness) but including RTE species presence. All Special Biodiversity Values (SBV) are identified in GIS and processes are in place to ensure they are identified during planning of operations, identified on harvest plans and work prescriptions and controls put in place to minimize impacts as far as practical. Where damage cannot be avoided during harvest (greater than minor edge damage) then the productive area boundary is reviewed during replant planning and if necessary adjusted to increase setbacks. Reserves are monitored annually, and restoration is undertaken progressively. During the audit field visits the auditor visited the Houpoto Wetland, this is a significant wetland HCV feature within Houpoto Forest that is monitored by Manulife annually. The wetland is in very good condition, with only a few wilding pines required to be removed. Discussions are ongoing with the landowners in relation to options to manage or improve the feature. As stated above the auditor also reviewed a small area of native vegetation in the middle of compartment 10584 where the contractor made | Yes |

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| | | The Houpoto HCV monitoring programme includes consultation with landowners and implementing of activities eg trapping of pest animals and future and wilding pine control. Monitoring uses a process developed by the NZ Department of conservation for reserve condition monitoring | |
| C9.04 | 9.4.2 The monitoring programme includes engagement with affected and interested stakeholders and experts. | Reviewed the Environmental Program Agreement between the Bay of Plenty Regional council and GTI 8 NZ Ltd (with MFM as forest managers) regarding proposed HCV area in Matahina Forest (Matai road forest) which states: Matai Road Covenant is located on land owned by GTI 8 NZ Ltd and within their Matahina Forest estate. Matahina Forest is a small part of what is a very extensive production forest spreading across the Käingaroa Ecological District in the Central North Island. Matai Road Covenant is approximately nine kilometres south-southwest of Kawerau. | Yes |
| | | Reserves are monitored annually, and restoration is undertaken progressively. During the audit field visits the auditor visited the Houpoto Wetland, this is a significant wetland HCV feature within Houpoto Forest that is monitored by Manulife annually. The wetland is in very good condition, with only a few wilding pines required to be removed. Discussions are ongoing with the landowners in relation to options to manage or improve the feature. | |
| C9.04 | 9.4.3 A public summary of monitoring results is made available, excluding Confidential information. | MFM NZ Ltd Monitoring Programme Public Summary 2023 provides a brief overview of HCV monitoring and notes that HCV monitoring results can be made available on request. However, at the time of the audit this report was not actually on the company website. | No |
| | | Non conformance Require a Monitoring Public Summary to be made available on the company website | |
| C9.04 | 9.4.4 The monitoring programme has sufficient scope, scale, detail and frequency to detect changes in high conservation values, relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each high conservation value. | MFM uses a monitoring protocol developed by the Department of conservation that staff use to compare conditions year to year. The Lake road HCV area noted deer presence and requested culling if required. Staff do rely on the previous reports reviewed prior to going onsite. Reports also contain photos taken during the inspection | Yes |
| | | Observation MFM could consider using permanent photo points in HCV or reserves to assist to detect changes in values relative to the initial assessment and status | |
| | | During interview the Environmental Manager noted that MFM carry out actions when monitoring or other new information shows any changes and reports suggest actions to be undertaken. Reviewed the HCV monitoring report for Te Ranginui wetland where the report recommended ongoing wilding pine control. | |
| C9.04 | 9.4.5 Management strategies and actions are adapted when monitoring or other new information shows that these strategies and actions are ineffective to ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of high conservation values. | Reserves are monitored annually, and restoration is undertaken progressively. During the audit field visits the auditor visited the Houpoto Wetland, this is a significant wetland HCV feature within Houpoto Forest that is monitored by Manulife annually. The wetland is in very good condition, with only a few wilding pines required to be removed. Discussions are ongoing with the landowners in relation to options to manage or improve the feature. | Yes |
| | | As stated above the auditor also reviewed a small area of native vegetation in the middle of compartment 10584 where the contractor made four different moves with a harvest line hauler (low impact harvesting) around the area of native and there were no impacts to the vegetation at all seen by the auditor. | |
| C10.01 | Harvested sites are regenerated in a timely manner that: Protects affected environmental values; and suitable to recover overall pre-harvest* or natural forest composition and structure. | | |
| C10.01 | 10.1.2 Regeneration activities* are implemented in a manner that: 1) For harvest of existing plantations, regenerate to the vegetation or similar species cover that existed prior to the harvest or to more natural conditions using ecologically well-adapted species, or any other species in line with 10.2.1, 10.2.2 and 10.3.1 of this standard; 2) For harvest of natural forests, regenerate to pre-harvest* or to more natural conditions; or 3) For harvest of degraded natural forests, regenerate to more natural conditions. | | |
| C10.02 | 10.2.1 Species chosen for regeneration are ecologically well adapted to the site, are native species and are of local provenance, unless clear and convincing justification is provided for using non-local genotypes or non-native species. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J | There are no regeneration areas by MFM in the plantations. Regeneration is not considered a management tool in this forest | N/A |

| 19.04 Criterion Index | 19.01 Indicator Definition | 19.02 Observation | 19.03 Conformant? |
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| C10.02 | 10.2.2 There is a clear justification for the choice of species and genotypes chosen for the plantation, which is consistent with the objectives of the plantation, and the climate, geology, and soils at the planting sites. | During interview with an Environmental Manager, it was confirmed that Radiata Pine and Douglas Fir are well understood in New Zealand as the species have been grown on the North and South Islands for long periods in excess of 100 years. Wilding spread is significantly less than many other introduced species and is generally limited to areas with low growing vegetation that is ungrazed. Where wildings do occur, they are easy to control. Radiata Pine is the superior species in terms of meeting the management objectives including market acceptance, site suitability and commercial viability. Douglas Fir is preferred for higher altitude sites where is shows improved site suitability compared to Radiata Pine. | Yes |
| | | Species selections are periodically assessed to determine the species that economically and ecologically are best suited to sites. Currently Radiata Pine outperforms other species on most sites in the estate. Options in term of different species have been undertaken (Ovens cypress -Cupressus Ovensii). Douglas fir has been planted in higher altitudes in Maraeroa, Kinleith and Waituhi forests with mixed results. | |
| 040.00 | 10.2.3 If there is a native species, which meets the management objectives, as well as an exotic species, the native species is selected in preference to the exotic species. | No native species exists that matches Radiata Pine in terms of meeting the management objectives. MFM does not establish any native species for plantation purposes. | v |
| C10.02 | | Other pinus species (muricarta, patula and Ayacahuiti) transposed from Golden Downs Forest were trialed for SCION. Other species trialed do not have the same wood properties. | Yes |
| | 10.3.1 Alien species are used only when direct experience and / or the results of scientific research demonstrate that invasive impacts can be controlled. | Species selections are periodically assessed to determine the species that economically and ecologically are best suited to sites. Currently Radiata Pine outperforms other species on most sites in the estate. Options in terms of different species have been undertaken. | |
| C10.03 | | Other pinus species (muricarta, patula and Ayacahuiti) transposed from Golden Downs Forest were trialed for SCION. Other species trialed do not have the same wood properties. | Yes |
| | | It was confirmed that wildings are monitored during the annual wetland monitoring program. Wilding numbers are very low, such that they are usually extracted immediately as they are located before the have a change to grow into larger trees and therefore present more difficulty of removal. | |
| C10.03 | 10.3.2 Alien species are used only when effective mitigation measures are in place to prevent and/or control their spread outside the area in which they are established. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex; J. | During interview with Environmental Foresters, it was reported that the MFM New Zealand estate is predominantly surrounded by either grazed farmland or native forest; therefore, wilding spread is relatively limited and easily controlled. Some limited wilding control is undertaken where required. Interviews and visual evidence during the field visits confirmed that wilding numbers were very low with no wildings seen during two days of driving through plantations. | Yes |
| | Galdance. Galdance can be found in Armex. 3. | Wilding pines are not really a significant issue for MFM, compared to other forests in the area. Wilding pine control is undertaken as areas are assessed. Wilding control is or can be a budget line item as required. | |
| C10.03 | 10.3.3 The spread of invasive plantation species introduced by The Organization is controlled in accordance with regional pest* management | During discussion with Environmental Manager, it was confirmed that pine wildings are included in the Bay of Plenty Regional Council pest management strategies as a "sustained control" species and part of the national eradication programme. | |
| 0.000 | Organization is controlled in accordance with regional pest: management plans and relevant landowners permission. | Wilding pines are not really a significant issue for MFM, compared to other forests in the area. Wilding pine control is undertaken as areas are assessed. Wilding control is/can be a budget line item as required. | Yes |
| C10.03 | 10.3.4 The Organisation complies with any applicable Regional Council pest* management strategy including where this identifies a wilding species as a pest*. | The Environmental Manager confirmed that no example of wildings escaping into farmland had occurred in the past five years There is some low scale internal wilding spread in firebreaks. No examples of pine wildings growing in farmland adjoining private pasture were seen during the field days during the audit. | Yes |
| C10.03 | 10.3.5 In the absence of a species being identified in the regional pest* management strategy, The Organisation removes wildings* in adjoining properties before seed production where: 1) The adjoining property owner agrees to wilding control on their land, and 2) Wildings* are identified as the progeny of species planted within the plantation area; and 3) Wildings* spread has occurred from The Organisation's trees planted after 2001. | As stated, any minor wilding control is undertaken in reserve areas as part of annual programmes, Wainui forest had some wildings alongside the Waitahanui Stream that were scheduled to be removed (MFM only took management control of this area in July 2023. Reviewed the OTPP budget for 2024 that included (\$20k) for wilding pine removal in Tikitere, Omalo and Waikawa | Yes |
| C10.03 | 10.3.6 Large The Organisation monitors and/or carries out research to evaluate the potential invasiveness and/or other adverse ecological impacts of the species in the local area. | Annual monitoring of wetlands are used to measure occurrence of wildings, which remains low on a year to year basis with no peaks or troughs occurring in wilding numbers in the past five years. As stated above during the audit field visits the auditor visited the Houpoto Wetland, this is a significant wetland HCV feature within Houpoto Forest that is monitored by Manuilfe annually. The wetland is in very good condition, with only a few wilding pines required to be removed. Discussions are ongoing with the landowners in relation to options to manage or improve the feature. | Yes |
| C10.04 | 10.4.1 Genetically modified organisms are not used. | | |
| C10.05 | 10.5.1 Silvicultural practices are implemented that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives. | | |

| 19.04 Criterion Index | 19.01 Indicator Definition | 19.02 Observation | 19.03 Conformant? |
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| | | In accordance with the MFM EMS Manual 2023, MFM has established an Environmental Standard for fertiliser application. Key legislation applying to MFM's operational forestry activities includes the BMP 9 Fertilizers. | |
| C10.06 | 10.6.1 The use of fertilisers is minimized or avoided. | Fertilizers are currently only used to address deficiencies affecting crop survival and growth, based on foliage and soil analysis. According to the National Forestry Manager there has been a significant decrease in fertilizer use 2022/23. | Yes |
| C10.06 | 10.6.2 The decision to use fertilisers is based on forest health surveys and/or soil or foliage analyses that demonstrate a need for intervention to address tree health and/or productivity. | During interview with the Environmental Manager, it was explained that MFM uses its forest health surveys and soil analysis program to determine the need for additional nutrients. MFM only boron, magnesium, phosphorus, superphosphate urea and Di-ammonium phosphate. Reviewed Summary of MFM Chemical Use 2023 | Yes |
| | 10.6.3 When fertilisers are used, their ecological and economic benefits are equal to or higher than those of silvicultural systems that do not require fertilisers. | It was also explained that fertilisers, and application are expensive and are avoided on a cost basis where non-use of fertilisers won't have a negative effect on achieving the management objectives. In general, MFM plantations suffer from deficiency of boron and manganese; therefore, these nutrients are applied to plantation trees. | |
| C10.06 | | The MFM EMS Manual 2023 states "Fertiliser application is only used as required to address deficiencies and maintain forest health, using foliar sampling and soil information to determine the type and amount of fertiliser required. As a result, fertiliser application rates in forestry are typically significantly lower than other productive land uses, such as farming or horticulture. | Yes |
| | | The MFM NZ Public Summary March 2023, section 7.4 states "Forest inventory is undertaken at regular intervals during the life of a crop. Trees are measured in temporary sample points. The first formal assessment is at about age 10. Up to three further assessments may be carried out culminating in pre-harvest inventory. These measurementsare used to monitor forest health." | |
| C10.06 | 10.6.4 When fertilisers are used, their types and additives; rates, methods, and frequencies; and site of application are documented. | Application rates are listed in the Chemicals Use Report 2023 and the Summary of MFM Chemical Data 2023. BMP 9 Fertilizers specifies application rates. Plot measurement and maintenance is managed internally (by MFM), but the data is processed and maintained on the Scion Permanent Sample Plot System. MFM compiles an annual report | Yes |
| C10.06 | 10.6.5 When fertilisers are used, environmental values are protected, including through implementation of measures to prevent damage. | summarizing its fertiliser program. During interview with the Environmental Manager, it was confirmed that MFM follows its Best Management Practice Fertilizers when applying fertilisers to protect environmental values including through implementation of measures to prevent damage. Any aerial fertilizer application are supervised by MFM staff. | Yes |
| C10.06 | 10.6.6 Damage to environmental values resulting from fertiliser use is avoided, remedied or mitigated | No environmental damage from fertilisers was seen during the field aspect of this audit. During interview, the Environmental Manager confirmed that no environmental damage had occurred during the audit period resulting from fertilising and no environmental damage from fertilisers was seen during the field aspect of this audit. Any damage mitigation would be assessed and managed on a case by case basis. | Yes |
| :10.07 silv | 10.7.1 Integrated pest* management, including selection of silviculture systems is used to avoid or aims to eliminate the frequency. | During interview with the National Forestry Manager, it was explained how MFM has developed silvicultural systems based on best practice informed by past research and industry research to achieve optimal outcomes, including minimizing the use of chemicals pesticide application. Silvicultural systems are designed to assist management and minimise chemical use. Fungicide use is minimised by high dothistroma resistant strains of P radiata. | Yes |
| | use or overall reductions in applications. | Herbicide application is arranged to be applied at certain times of the year. Cutover spray is carried out early on this growth cycle to minimise herbicide use. Reviewed MFM NZ Chemical Use Strategy 2023. Bio controls for weeds have been deployed in NZ for several years by SCION or Landcare and monitored by MFM in their forests | |
| C10.07 | 10.7.2 The use of pesticides complies with FSC Pesticide Policy FSC-POL- 30-001 V3-0. | During interview with the Environmental Manager, it was explained that MFM does not use prohibited chemicals in the estate. Any chemicals listed as restricted or highly restricted are only approved for us after an assessment of alternatives has been undertaken and it has been determined there are no viable lower risk alternatives. An ESRA has been completed for all restricted and highly restricted pesticides and findings of the ESRA are included in operational management systems. | Yes |
| C10.07 | 10.7.3 Records of pesticide usage are maintained, including trade name, the active ingredient, the quantity of active ingredient used, the period of use, area of use, location of use, and reason for use. | MFM has developed an approved list of chemicals with only the Environmental Manager and Forestry Manager having approval authority to add chemicals to the list. Reviewed the Chemicals Use Report 2023 | Yes |
| C10.07 | 10.7.4 The use of pesticides complies with the ILO document "Safety in the use of chemicals at work" regarding requirements for the transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for cleanup following accidental spillages. | During interview, the Environmental Manager explained that the NZ Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 legislation requirements cover the relevant elements of the ILO document. All chemical application is carried out in accordance with NZ legislation. | Yes |
| C10.07 | 10.7.5 If pesticides are used, application methods minimise quantities used, while achieving effective results, and provide effective protection to surrounding landscapes. | During the field visit, the Environmental Manager explained how research and practical experience informs application rates which are applied at the lowest rates viable whilst ensuring the success of the operation. Prescriptions include the chemical application rates. Only the minimum amount is used – due to expense of the chemical, no waste is allowed | Yes |

| 19.04 Criterion Index | 19.01 Indicator Definition | 19.02 Observation | 19.03 Conformant? |
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| C10.07 | 10.7.6 Damage to environmental values and human health from pesticide use is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs. | Processes are in place through planning and application of pesticides to identify risks to environmental and put in place controls to avoid non-target effects. Occasional overspray has occurred, and if this does occur the damage is remediated. Where the impacted land is owned by a third party, remediation is undertaken with the landowner's agreement. Internal overspray occurred in one spray operation that impacted a young stand of P radiata, this was replanted by MFM. MFM have investigated medical checks for staff, but this has not been decided at a corporate, however all MFM staff do have health assessments, but this does not include herbicide monitoring. | Yes |
| C10.07 | 10.7.7 When pesticides are used: 1) The selected pesticide, additives or adjuvants, application method, timing, and pattern of use offers the least risk to humans, recreation and non-target species; and 2) Objective evidence demonstrates that the pesticide is the only effective, practical and cost-effective way to control the pest*. NTFP 10.78 (applicable for honey and other bee products) Sickness of the bees is treated physically such as with steam or fire to disinfect the beehives. For treatment of varroa mites, the following substances are used: 1) Formic acid, lactic acid, acetic acid and oxalic acid. 2) Menthol, eucalyptol and camphor. | As described in 10.7.2, an assessment has been completed for all pesticides applied in the estate to determine the least risk option for effectively controlling the pest species targeted. Targeted herbicides are applied before growth periods (springtime). An assessment has been completed for all pesticides applied in the estate to determine the least risk option for effectively controlling the pest species targeted. | Yes |
| C10.08 | 10.8.1 The use of biological control agents is minimised, monitored and controlled. | | |
| C10.08 | 10.8.2 Use of biological control agents complies with internationally accepted scientific protocols and includes local HSNO requirements | | |
| C10.08 | 10.8.3 The use of biological control agents is recorded including type, quantity, period, location and reason for use. | | |
| C10.08 | 10.8.4 Damage to environmental values caused by the use of biological control agents released by The Organisation is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs. | | |
| C10.09 | 10.9.1 Potential negative impacts of natural hazards on infrastructure*, forest resources and communities in the management unit are assessed. | | |
| C10.09 | 10.9.2 Management activities mitigate these impacts. Guidance: Guidance can be found in Annex: J. | | |
| C10.09 | 10.9.3 The risk for management activities to increase the frequency, distribution, or severity of natural hazards is identified for those hazards that may be influenced by management. | | |
| C10.09 | 10.9.4 Management activities are modified and/or measures are developed and implemented that reduce the identified risks. | | |
| C10.09 | 10.9.5 The Organisation complies with fire prevention and management requirements of Fire and Emergency New Zealand. | | |
| C10.10 | 10.10.1 Development, maintenance and use of infrastructure*, as well as transport activities, are managed to protect environmental values identified in Criterion 6.1. | | |
| C10.10 | 10.10.2 Silviculture activities are managed to ensure protection of the environmental values identified in Criterion 6.1. | | |
| C10.10 | 10.10.3 Disturbance or damages to water bodies, soils, rare and threatened species, habitats, ecosystems and landscape values are prevented, mitigated and repaired in a timely manner, and management activities modified to prevent further damage. | | |
| C10.11 | 10.11.1 Harvesting and extraction practices for timber and non-timber forest products are implemented in a manner that conserves environmental values as identified in Criterion 6.1. | | |
| C10.11 | 10.11.2 Adverse effects to environmental values identified in 6.1 are mitigated, repaired, and restored in a timely manner, and management activities modified to prevent further damage. | | |
| C10.11 | 10.11.3 Harvesting practices optimise the use of forest products and merchantable materials. | | |

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