



SmartWood Program

**Public Briefing Paper for
FM Controlled Wood Change of Scope Audit of
Gunns Limited, Australia
14-17 June 2011**

Introduction - The SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance is conducting a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) controlled wood forest management audit of Gunns Limited forest management unit (FMU) located in Tasmania, Australia. The scope of the SmartWood audit includes the total forest area managed by Gunns Limited in Tasmania of approximately **284,573** hectares. However, Gunns Limited will restrict Controlled Wood claims only to wood supplied from hardwood and softwood plantations within the FMU. If the Gunns Limited Tasmania FMU conforms to the *FSC standard for forest management enterprises supplying non FSC-certified controlled wood (FSC-STD-30-010, version 2-0)*, the FMU will be added to the scope of Gunns Limited's existing FSC Controlled Wood certificate SW-CW/FM-005365.

The field work will be conducted 14-17 June 2011.

Purpose and Scope –

The purpose of the audit is to evaluate the ability of the company to supply controlled wood as defined by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in the *FSC standard for forest management enterprises supplying non FSC-certified controlled wood (FSC-STD-30-010, version 2-0)*.

Continued compliance with the specified controlled wood standard allows forest management enterprises (FMEs) to provide evidence that the wood they supply has been controlled to avoid wood from the five controversial categories defined by FSC. Controversial categories include wood that is:

- 1) Illegally harvested;
- 2) Harvested in violation of traditional and civil rights;
- 3) Harvested in forest management units in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities;
- 4) Harvested in areas in which forests are being converted to plantations or non-forest use;
or
- 5) Harvested from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted.

FSC-STD-30-010 provides the basic requirements at the forest management unit level to demonstrate that wood from the FME's forest area(s) is controlled. Gunns Limited Tasmanian FMU was audited previously against this standard in 2010 and there were a number of Major non-conformances and subsequent corrective action requests (CARs) resulting from the audit.

While these major CARs will be considered during this audit, the audit will be carried out using all criteria in the standard...

To obtain a copy of the applicable guidelines or to make comments about these standards, please contact SmartWood by telephone, FAX, email or website listed below. SmartWood is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and this audit process must follow procedures which have been approved by the FSC.

Audit Team Composition – The audit team will be led by John Tredinnick (SmartWood Lead Auditor). The other team member will be a forest ecologist.

Audit Steps and Schedule – Following is a short description of the audit process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Audit organization – The SmartWood team will assemble in Launceston on 14 June.
- ◆ Field visits – The team will visit sites in the south east, north east and north west of the estate from 14-17 June.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding forest management, and this will include private interviews and group discussions as necessary.
- ◆ Final briefing – Prior to departure the team will meet with Gunns Limited's managers and staff to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Draft report production – The team will produce a confidential draft report that will be provided to Gunns Limited. This will occur 30 days after completion of the field work.

Your Input Sought – As a part of the FM CW certification process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Gunns Limited forest management in relation to the requirements of the forest management CW standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the audit process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the audit, during the audit, so that we can take them into consideration. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows:

1. Meet with a SmartWood audit team member during or shortly after the fieldwork. Please contact the lead auditor at the phone number or e-mail below if you wish to meet.
2. Call and give comments to either the lead auditor or to Indu Bikal Sapkota, the SmartWood staff person responsible for coordinating this audit.
3. Submit written comments by mail, FAX or email to the lead auditor or Indu Sapkota. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing Gunns Limited.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and SmartWood staff. Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access SmartWood's dispute resolution procedures at www.smartwood.org,

Contacting SmartWood

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