

Forestry and FSC

Note to Wilding Conifer Group Meeting

7th April 2014.



Certification

what is it.....?

- International system headquartered in Bonn.
- Voluntary and in NZ adopted by all major corporate growers but almost zero small to medium growers.
- Based around 10 principles that cover legality, social impact, indigenous peoples, environmental effect, management planning, monitoring and plantations.
- Certification applied / reapplied for on 5 yearly basis.
- Annual surveillance audits.
- Auditing undertaken by independent certifying bodies (CB) accredited by FSC to perform the task.
- CB's periodically audited by FSC.



FSC's 10 Principles

- [Principle 1: Compliance with Laws and FSC Principles](#)
- [Principle 2: Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- [Principle 3: Indigenous peoples' Rights](#)
- [Principle 4: Community Relations and Worker's Rights](#)
- [Principle 5: Benefits from the Forest](#)
- [Principle 6: Environmental Impact](#)
- [Principle 7: Management Plan](#)
- [Principle 8: Monitoring and Assessment](#)
- [Principle 9: Maintenance of high conservation value forests](#)
- [Principle 10: Plantations](#)



NZ FSC Standard

- 10 Principles
- 56 criterion
- 269 indicators
- Issue of wildings supported by Principle 6.
- Implicitly by 6.1.2 – Assessment of environmental impacts to include “changes to invasive exotic flora and fauna abundance and impacts upon poorly represented, threatened endangered species.
- Implicitly by 6.3.10 – weed and pest control plans to support the maintenance of ecological functions.....
- **Explicitly in 6.9**



Principle 6 – key requirement

- **Criterion 6.9: The use of exotic species shall be controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.**
 - **Indicator 6.9.1** Forest managers shall comply with any applicable regional **pest** management strategy including where this identifies a wilding species as a **pest**.
 - **Indicator 6.9.2** Forest managers shall have in place a **Wilding Prevention Decision Support System** and prior to planting of **exotics** use this to assess the risk of wilding spread. Where the risk is high the **forest manager** will not plant without implementing appropriate ongoing control procedures.
 - **Indicator 6.9.3** In the absence of a species being identified in the regional **pest** management strategy, the **forest manager** shall remove '**wildings**' in adjoining properties before seed production where:
 - the adjoining property owner is agreeable to any **wilding** control activities required on his or her land, and
 - **wildings** are clearly identified as the progeny of species planted within the plantation area; and
 - **wilding** spread has occurred from plantations after the Standard becomes operative or from first certification.



Principle 10 Plantations

- **Indicator 10.5.4 Restoration** programmes identified in 6.4 shall be progressively commenced 15 years after these standards come into effect or from the date of first certification whichever is the later.
- **Indicator 10.7.1** An **integrated pest management plan** shall form an essential part of the management plan.
- **Indicator 10.7.2 Pest** control methods shall comply with any applicable regional **pest** management strategy and/or have minimal and environmentally acceptable impacts on non-target species.
 - **Verifiers**
 - Chemical use is undertaken in accordance with 6.6
 - The **forest manager** contributes to New Zealand's biosecurity programmes through:
 - Membership of NZFOA, or Equivalent biosecurity contribution.
 - Any biological control agent or other new organism that is used, has been screened for non – target impacts, and a precautionary approach taken to assessing adverse environmental effects.



Some Potential Hindrances

No Chemicals - Bio-controls – GMO's (incl sterile trees)



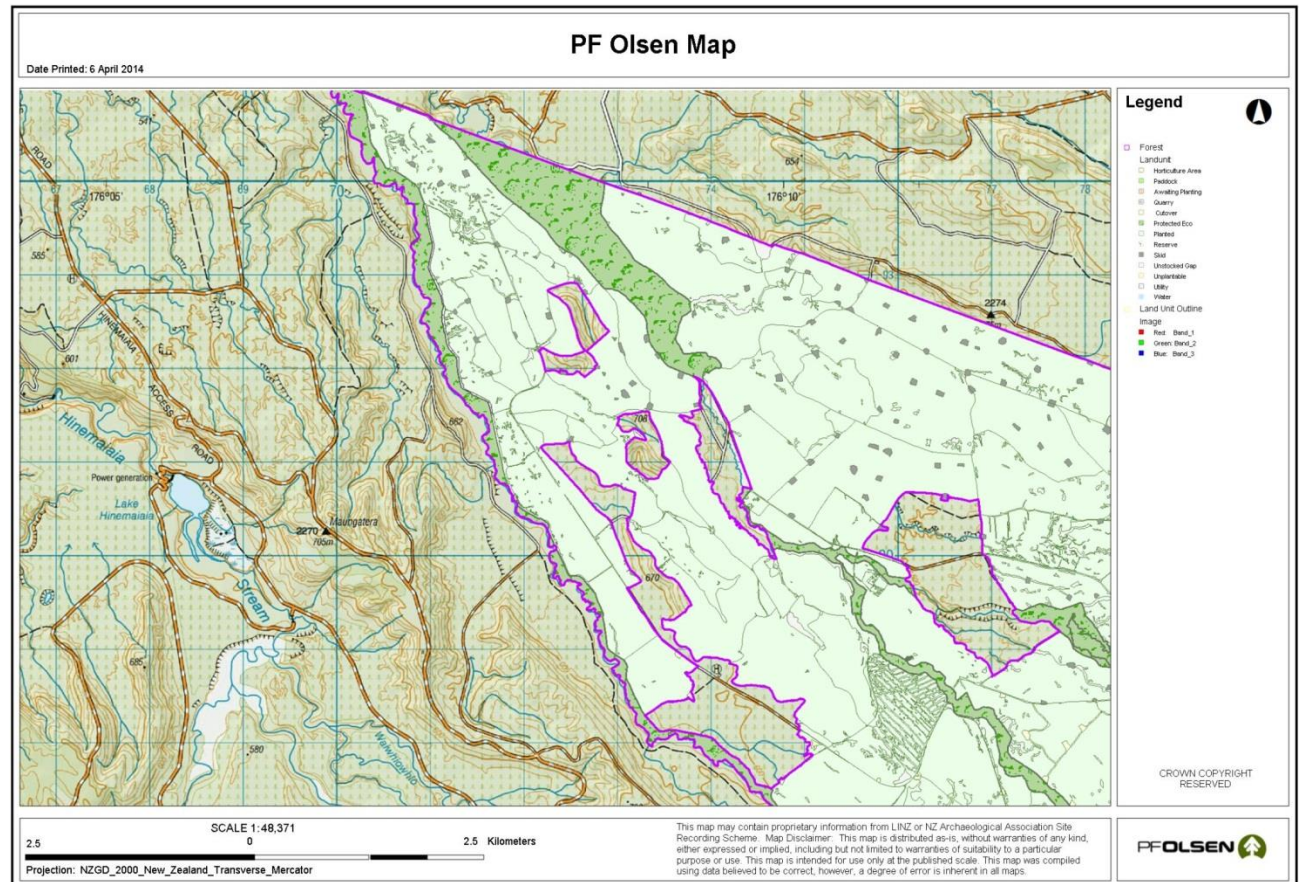
International Generic Indicators

- 10.3 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. (C6.9 and C10.8 V4)
- 10.3.1 Alien species* are used only when direct experience and / or the results of scientific research demonstrate that impacts can be controlled and effective measures are in place to control their spread outside the area in which they are established.
- 10.3.2 Spread of invasive species is controlled.
- 10.3.3 If systems and measures to control invasiveness are ineffective with species introduced by the Organization, programs to eliminate the alien species* are devised and implemented.
- Seek to use integrated pest management strategies that **avoid or eliminate** the frequency, extent and amount of chemical pesticide
- Minimize, monitor and strictly control use of Bio-controls and no GMO



Complicating issues

- Land ownership
- Forest ownership
- Shared boundaries
- Artificial boundaries



Way Forward

- Collaboration – Neighbours, Councils, Govt.
- New technologies.
- Education – don't plant where can't control – how to control



NZ Std 4708

- The forest manager shall evaluate the impact of introduced species, provenances or populations established in plantations, and where possible constrain their spread to protect the ecological integrity of adjacent native vegetation.
 - The forest manager shall implement measures to prevent escape and control of non-endemic plantation species into areas outside the defined forest area.
- More flexibility on chemicals.
- No GMO's

