

Glossary

Definitions and Acronyms

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Comments/Abstract

This document lists definitions and acronyms used in Responsible Wood and Australian Forestry Standard documents. This file is a normative reference for all other documents.

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1 Introduction

This document is a normative reference and provides a list of Acronyms and definitions that are used or referenced in Responsible Wood and Australian Forestry Standard documentation.

2 Acronyms

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|---|
| AFS | Australian Forestry Standards |
| AFSL | Australian Forestry Standards Limited |
| AS | Australian Standard |
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer |
| CoC | Chain of Custody |
| COP | Code of Practice |
| DAB | Development Advisory Board |
| DFA | Defined forest area |
| DG | Development Group |
| FM | Forestry Management |
| JAS-ANZ | Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand |
| NSO | National Standards Office |
| NWI | New Work Item |
| PEFC | Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes |
| PM | Project Manager |
| RWCS | Responsible Wood Certification Scheme |
| SDAC | Standards Development Accreditation Committee |
| SDO | Standards Development Organisation |
| SRC | Standard Reference Committee |

3 Definitions

| Term | Definition |
|--|--|
| Responsible Wood recognised certificate | <p>Any of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a valid accredited forest management certificate issued against AS 4708, b) a valid accredited chain of custody certificate issued against AS 4707 c) a valid accredited forest management certificate issued by a PEFC notified certification body against a forest management scheme/standard which is endorsed by the PEFC Council, d) a valid accredited chain of custody certificate issued by a PEFC notified certification body against this standard together with PEFC recognised specification of the material category, or e) a valid accredited chain of custody certificate issued by a PEFC notified certification body against a scheme specific chain of custody standard which is endorsed by the PEFC Council. <p>Note: PEFC endorsed forest certification schemes and chain of custody standards are found at the PEFC Council website, www.pefc.org.</p> |
| Amendment | <p>Modification, addition or deletion of specific parts of the content of a normative document</p> <p>NOTE The results of amendment are usually presented by issuing a separate amendment sheet to the normative document (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Appeal | <p>Request by the provider of the object of conformity assessment to the conformity assessment body or accreditation body for reconsideration by that body of a decision it has made relating to that object (ISO/IEC 17000:2004).</p> <p>Appeals are procedural in nature, and are launched as a result of decisions which the appellant considers to be procedurally in error.</p> <p>Procedural appeals can include whether a technical issue was afforded due process.</p> <p>See also Complaints</p> |
| Aspect | <p>An element of an enterprise's activities that can interact with environmental, economic, social or cultural factors and that can affect the outcomes of forest management for the production of forest products and services. A significant aspect is one that has, or can have a significant impact.</p> |

| Term | Definition |
|---------------------------|---|
| Assessment | Process of determining the status or condition of a forest value by a person with technical expertise before or after a forest management activity. It is also undertaken to determine the impact and effectiveness of the forest management |
| Audit | A systematic and documented verification process of objectively obtaining and evaluating evidence to determine whether an organization’s management system conforms to forest management performance criteria and requirements of the Standard. |
| Author | Person or entity creating written content for the Standards |
| Biodiversity | The diversity of plants, animals and other living organisms in all their forms and levels of organization, and includes the diversity of genes (or units of heredity), species and ecosystems. It also includes the composition, structure and function of ecosystems and the evolutionary and functional processes that link them. |
| Bioregion | Large, geographically distinct areas of land with common characteristics such as geology, landform patterns, climate, ecological features and plant and animal communities. The bioregions for Australia are described in the latest version of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalization for Australia |
| Carbon cycle | The biogeochemical cycle by which carbon is exchanged among the living, land and water components, and the atmosphere of the Earth. It describes the movement of carbon as it is recycled and reused throughout the biosphere. |
| Certificate | A document indicating that an organisation’s chain of custody system conforms to the Australian Standard and any supplementary documentation required under the chain of custody system. |
| Certified material | Raw material covered by the chain of custody claims. |
| Certified product | Product claimed to include certified material whose content is verified by chain of custody. |
| Chain of custody | The process of tracking wood and forest products originating in sustainably managed forests through all phases of ownership, transportation, and manufacturing from the defined forest area to the final product and delivery to the end consumer |
| Chain of custody | Process of handling of information on the material category of forest based products which allow the organisation to make accurate and verifiable claims on the content of certified material. |
| Claim | Information which indicates certain aspects of a product. The term “claim” used in this standard indicates use of the official chain of custody claims (see for example Appendix 1) relating to the Responsible Wood claim. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Claim period | Time period for which the chain of custody claim applies. |
| Code of practice | A set of objectives, outcomes, goals or operating procedures designed to control, regulate or govern field activities. |
| Complaint | <p>Expression of dissatisfaction, other than appeal, by any person or organization to a conformity assessment body or accreditation body, relating to the activities of that body, where a response is expected (ISO/IEC 17000:2004).</p> <p>Complaints may be either of a substantive (technical) or procedural nature.</p> <p>(See also Appeals)</p> |
| Conflict timber | <p>Timber that has been traded at some point in the chain of custody by armed groups, be they rebel factions or regular soldiers, or by a civilian administration involved in armed conflict or its representatives, either to perpetuate conflict or take advantage of conflict situations for personal gain... conflict timber is not necessarily illegal” or the exploitation of timber may itself be a direct cause of conflict.</p> <p>(Definition used by UNEP http://www.unep.org/dewa/Africa/publications/AEO-2/content/205.htm).</p> |
| Consensus | <p>General agreement, characterised by the absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues by any important part of the concerned interests and by a process that involves seeking to take into account the views of all parties concerned and to reconcile any conflicting arguments.</p> <p>Consensus need not imply unanimity. (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Continual improvement | Process of enhancing the management system to achieve improvements in overall performance in line with the enterprise’s forest management policy through monitoring, evaluation and review. |
| Contract | The appropriate approved Responsible Wood sub-contractors contract or agreement. |
| Controlled sources | Material for which the risk of originating from controversial sources has been minimised through the implementation of the PEFC or AS 4707 Due Diligence System. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Controversial sources | <p>Forest activities that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. do not comply with local, national or international legislation applying to forest related activities, in particular in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forestry operations and harvesting, including biodiversity conservation and conversion of forest to other use, • management of areas with designated high environmental and cultural values, • protected and endangered species, including requirements of CITES, • health and labour issues relating to forest workers, • indigenous peoples' property, tenure and use rights, • third parties' property, tenure and use rights, • payment of taxes and royalties, II. do not comply with legislation of the country of harvest relating to trade and customs, in so far as the forest sector is concerned, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use genetically modified forest based organisms, • convert forest to other vegetation type, including conversion of primary forests to forest plantations. |
| Correction | <p>Removal of printing, linguistic and other similar errors from the published text of a normative document</p> <p>NOTE The results of correction may be presented, as appropriate, by issuing a separate correction sheet or a new edition of the normative document. (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Corrective action | <p>Action to eliminate the cause of a detected nonconformity or other undesirable situation</p> <p>NOTE 1 There can be more than one cause for a nonconformity.</p> <p>NOTE 2 Corrective action is taken to prevent recurrence whereas preventive action is taken to prevent occurrence. (ISO, 2005)</p> |
| Crown cover | <p>Area of ground covered by tree canopies, ignoring overlaps and gaps within individual canopies.</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| Customer | A single entity, either buyer or user of the organisation’s products, to whom the claim is made. The term customer also covers an internal customer within the organisation where other product groups exist. |
| Damage agent | A factor that can cause a reduction to forest values or impact on forest ecosystem health and vitality including endemic or exotic species, and physical processes like cyclones and bushfires. |
| Defined forest area | An area of forest (including land and water) to which the requirements of the Standard are applied. It includes productive and non-productive forest areas, streamside reserves, conservation areas, and roads, etc. The defined forest area is described by survey plans, legal title(s), gazettal notices or GIS shape files, whether as freehold, joint venture, agreement, lease or crown land. The forest manager seeking certification to the Standard will need to demonstrate management control and legal rights over the forest operations in the defined forest area through appropriate agreements or contracts, which allows them to achieve all of the requirements. The forest manager is precluded from omitting elements of its operation which would otherwise be included in its defined forest area from the scope of its certification. |
| Degraded forest | A forest that has reduced capacity to provide goods and services because it has lost structure, function, species composition and or productivity normally associated with the forest type on that site. A degraded forest requires silvicultural intervention to restore its productivity. |
| Direct dealing | Conduct by the forest manager which has the effect of undermining, or is likely to undermine, the authority of the representative organization of workers which occurs when the forest manager by-passes the representative organization of workers in order to engage in discussions, bargaining or negotiations with represented forest workers in relation to matters that fall within the scope of collective bargaining without the participation of the representative organization of workers. |
| Disturbance regime | A pattern of disturbance events, such as fire or flooding, followed by a period of recovery from the disturbance, e.g. regrowth of a forest after a fire. |
| Draft standard | Proposed standard that is available generally for comment, voting or approval. (IEC, 2004) |
| Due Diligence System (DDS) | A framework of procedures and measures, namely information gathering, risk assessment and risk mitigation, to exercise due diligence. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Ecological integrity | The ability of the forest ecosystem to support and maintain key ecological processes and a community of organisms with a species composition, diversity and functional organization similar to the natural habitats within the region. |
| Ecosystem | The aggregate of all living organisms and their interactions with each other and the non-living parts of the environment for a defined place or kind of habitat. |
| Enterprise | An individual, company, organization, business or firm which exists to undertake forest management. |
| Environment | Surroundings in which an organization operates, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans and their interaction. |
| Equal treatment | The behavior towards forest workers regardless of race, color, sex, sexual preference, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, family or carers responsibilities, pregnancy, religion, political opinion, union membership, national extraction or social origin. |
| Establishment | The creation of a new forest or plantation arising from the treatment, seeding or the planting of a site with trees. |
| Extraction track | A track along which logs are transported from the felling point to a nearby landing, loading or aggregation point (also known as a snig or skid track). |
| Forest | An area of land, incorporating all living and non-living components, that is dominated by trees having usually a single stem and a mature or potentially mature stand height exceeding two metres and crown cover or potential crown cover of overstorey strata about equal to or greater than 20 per cent. This definition includes Australia's diverse native forests and plantations, regardless of age. It is also sufficiently broad to encompass areas of trees that are sometimes described as woodlands. |
| Forest based material | Raw material originating in forest areas or from other areas recognised by Australian Forestry Standard Limited as eligible for Responsible Wood and other PEFC endorsed forest management certification, including recycled material originally coming from those areas. Note: Forest based material includes wood based as well as non-wood based material. |
| Forest based products | Products that include forest based material. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Forest management plan | A plan (or a collection of plans, documents or other instruments that have been prepared by, or for, or are available to, the forest manager) that demonstrates compliance with the requirements specified in the Standard for the management of forests within the defined forest area. |
| Forest management policy | Statement of commitments, intentions and principles in relation to overall forest management which provides a framework for action and setting of objectives and targets. |
| Forest manager | The person or enterprise with legal control of forest operations within the defined forest area. |
| Forest operations | A process, method or series of actions, especially of a practical or mechanical nature within a forest related to its management or use for the production of forest products, including but not limited to road construction and/or maintenance, timber harvesting and extraction, stream crossing constructions, non-commercial thinning, slash disposal, site preparation and/or prescribed burning. |
| Forest products | The physical goods derived from the defined forest area including all wood and non-wood commodities. |
| Forest services | The environmental, economic, social and cultural benefits derived from the defined forest area including the full range of environmental and ecological services. |
| Forest type | A classification of forests according to their life form, height of the tallest stratum and the projected foliage cover of the tallest stratum. |
| Forest worker | A person who carries out work in any capacity for the enterprise. |
| Generally implied requirement | Means that it is custom or common practice for the organisation, its customers and other interested parties, that the need or expectation under consideration is implied. |

| Term | Definition |
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| <p>Genetically-modified trees</p> | <p>Trees in which the genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination, taking into account applicable legislation providing a specific definition of genetically modified organisms.</p> <p>The following techniques are considered as genetic modification resulting in genetically modified trees (EU Directive 2001/18/EC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recombinant nucleic acid techniques involving the formation of new combinations of genetic material by the insertion of nucleic acid molecules produced by whatever means outside an organism, into any virus, bacterial plasmid or other vector system and their incorporation into a host organism in which they do not naturally occur, but in which they are capable of continued propagation; ● Techniques involving the direct introduction into an organism of heritable material prepared outside the organism including micro-injection, macro-injection, and micro-encapsulation; ● Cell fusion (including protoplast fusion) or hybridization techniques where live cells with new combinations of heritable genetic material are formed through the fusion of two or more cells by means of methods that do not occur naturally. <p>The following techniques are not considered as genetic modification resulting in genetically modified trees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● in vitro fertilization; ● selective tree breeding ● natural processes such as, conjugation, transduction, and transformation; and ● polyploidy induction. |
| <p>Greenhouse gases</p> | <p>Those gaseous constituents of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorb and emit radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere and clouds. This property causes the greenhouse effect. Water vapor (H₂O), carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrous oxide (N₂O), methane (CH₄) and ozone (O₃) are the primary greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere.</p> |
| <p>Group forest certification scheme</p> | <p>A scheme or arrangement managed by a Group Manager on behalf of a Group Entity allowing for the certification of Group Members under one Forest Management Certificate.</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| Growth stages | The stages of ecological succession of a plant community, for example, from young stage to old stage; the characteristic sequence of biotic communities that successively occupy and replace each other, altering in the process some components of the physical environment over time. |
| Guidelines | Produced relatively quickly to meet a short term need or address a particular subject that is generally not complex. |
| Impact | Any change to environmental, economic, social or cultural factors, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from the enterprise's activities. A significant impact is important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to its context or intensity. |
| Impartiality | The quality of being impartial, or freedom from bias or favouritism |
| Indigenous lands | Areas inhabited and exclusively possessed by indigenous people. |
| Indigenous people | <p>People who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regarded as indigenous on account of their decent from the populations which inhabited the country at the time of conquest or colonization; or • tribal and whose social, cultural and economic conditions distinguish them from other sections of the national community and whose status is regulated wholly or partially by their own customs or traditions or by special laws or regulations; or • of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin and who are accepted as such by the community with which the people associate |
| Interested party | Person or group having an interest in the performance or outcome of the standard or the standards development process. |
| International workshop agreement (iwa) | <p>An IWA is an ISO document produced through workshop meeting(s) and not through the technical committee process.</p> <p>Any interested party can propose an IWA and can participate in developing one. An ISO member body will be assigned to organize and run the workshop meeting(s) resulting in the IWA. Market players and other stakeholders directly participate in IWA and do not have to go through a national delegation. An IWA can be produced on any subject.</p> |
| Inventory | The systematic collection of data and forest information for assessment or analysis. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Known and potential habitat | An area or areas occupied, or periodically or occasionally occupied, by a species, population or ecological community and includes any biotic or abiotic component, and into which organisms of that kind have the potential to be reintroduced. |
| Labelling | Use of labels (on- or off-product). |
| Material category | The characteristics of the place where the raw material is coming from. This standard uses three material categories: certified, neutral and other material, whose definitions are made specifically for individual claims. |
| Monitoring | A systematic, planned series of measurements or observations taken at regular intervals of time to provide the basis for analyzing and reporting changes to implementation, effectiveness and trends. |
| Montreal process | The informal agreement by the Montreal Process Group of countries (currently 12) to work towards the implementation of a comprehensive set of criteria and indicators for the conservation and sustainable management of forests. See http://www.rinya.maff.go.jp/mpci/ |
| Native vegetation | Any locally indigenous vegetation community containing the suite of species and habitats normally associated with that vegetation type. |
| Native vegetation conversion | Removing native vegetation, or a significant portion of the characteristic suite of species for the native vegetation community, to establish a plantation or replace with non-forest cover. |
| Native vegetation type | A classification to describe uniform native vegetation according to their life form, associations, height and the projected foliage cover of the predominate stratum or by other means that is applied within a bioregion. |
| Natural heritage places | Places with outstanding natural heritage values that have been included on the Australian National Heritage List deemed to be of significance to Australia. |
| Neutral material | Material that is not forest-based and is therefore considered as neutral in the calculation of the certification percentage. |
| Nonconformity | Non-fulfilment of a requirement. |
| Non-wood products | Forest products other than wood. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Normative document | <p>Document that provides rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results</p> <p>NOTE 1 The term “normative document” is a generic term that covers such documents as standards, technical specifications, codes of practice and regulations.</p> <p>NOTE 2 A “document” is to be understood as any medium with information recorded on or in it.</p> <p>NOTE 3 The terms for different kinds of normative documents are defined considering the document and its content as a single entity. (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Objective | <p>Overall goal arising from forest management policy that an enterprise sets itself to achieve and which is quantified where practical.</p> |
| Old-growth forest | <p>Ecologically mature forest in which the effects of disturbances are now negligible.</p> |
| Organisation | <p>Any entity that makes claims about products and implements the requirements of this standard. Such an entity can clearly identify the supplier of its raw materials and the customer for its products.</p> |
| Other material | <p>Forest based material other than certified material.</p> |
| Performance outcomes | <p>Measurable results of the management system related to an enterprise’s environmental, economic, social and cultural aspects and impacts based on the requirements of the Standard.</p> |
| Pesticides | <p>Chemicals (including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides) used to control biological damage agents.</p> |
| Physical separation | <p>A procedure in which various materials/products of different material categories are kept separate so that the category of the material/products used and transferred to the customer is known.</p> <p>Note: Physical separation can involve physical separation at an organisation’s facility, e.g., in separate bays or in specific storage areas of the facility, or it can include clear marking or use of having distinguishing marks, to readily identify the materials of different origin categories.</p> |
| Plantation | <p>Stands of trees of either native or exotic species, created by the regular planting, sowing or control of cuttings, seedlings, seed or coppice.</p> |
| Plantation | <p>Intensively managed stands of trees of native or introduced species established by the regular placement of seedlings or seeds to produce timber.</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| Policy | A Policy is a concise formal statement of principles which indicate how Responsible Wood will act in a particular area of its operation. Those principles are derived from and shaped by: the law and regulations that govern Responsible Wood; national standards and community expectations, and the values and mission Responsible Wood articulates in its business plans. |
| Precautionary principle | <p>Where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation. In applying the Precautionary Principle, decisions should be guided by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scientifically credible evidence of a threat, and • assessing whether the threat is irreversible and/or disproportionate; <p>if so, applying a remedy sufficient to prevent that threat arising, otherwise, making a decision on an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options.</p> |
| Preventive action | <p>Action to eliminate the cause of a potential nonconformity or other undesirable potential situation</p> <p>NOTE 1 There can be more than one cause for a potential nonconformity.</p> <p>NOTE 2 Preventive action is taken to prevent occurrence whereas corrective action is taken to prevent recurrence. (ISO, 2005)</p> |
| Primary forest | Forest of native species where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed. Primary forest includes areas where collection of non-timber forest products occurs, provided the human impact is small. Some trees may have been removed. |
| Procedure | specified way to carry out an activity or a process, will always be documented (ISO, 2005) |
| Process | <p>A set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs into outputs; may not always be documented.</p> <p>NOTE 1 Inputs to a process are generally outputs of other processes.</p> <p>NOTE 2 Processes in an organization are generally planned and carried out under controlled conditions to add value. (ISO, 2005)</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| <p>Process records</p> | <p>Records which are maintained to ensure that the standards development process has been conducted as per established and approved procedures.</p> <p>Process Records will be maintained where the absence of such records would reduce confidence in the quality of the product and/or service supplied.</p> <p>Process records which can be in the form of any type of media, such as hard copy or electronic media.</p> |
| <p>Product group</p> | <p>Set of products manufactured or traded in the specified processes which are covered by the organisation's chain of custody. The organisation can establish one or more product groups as a result of parallel or subsequent processes. The chain of custody product group can also include a single product for which the chain of custody is implemented. This approach of implementing chain of custody is also called "project chain of custody".</p> |
| <p>Productive capacity</p> | <p>Capacity to produce forest products and services. Includes non-wood products and for plantations, alternative crop types. It can be applied to non-market benefits such as ecosystem services.</p> |
| <p>Project</p> | <p>Consisting of a set of coordinated and controlled activities with start and finish dates, undertaken to achieve an objective conforming to specific requirements, including the constraints of time, cost and resources.</p> |
| <p>Provenance</p> | <p>A term identifying the original geographic source of seed, pollen, or propagates.</p> |
| <p>Purchase documentation</p> | <p>The documents provided to the Supplier to enable supply of the material or services.</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| Recycled material | <p>Forest based material that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diverted from the waste stream during a manufacturing process. Materials such as rework, regrind or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it are excluded. By-products such as sawmilling by-products (sawdust, chips, bark, etc.) or forestry residues (bark, chips from branches, roots, etc.) are excluded as they do not represent “waste stream”. <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain. <p>Note 1: The term “capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it” means that the material generated in one process is continuously returned to the same process at the same site. An example is residue generated by a press line in a panel board production that continuously re-enters the same press line. This is not considered as recycled material.</p> <p>Note 2: Chips and other by-products of milling and residues from harvesting are not considered recycled because they have not previously been converted into a finished product.</p> <p>Note 3: This definition is based on definitions of ISO 14021:1999.</p> |
| Regeneration | New trees arising naturally or with human assistance after harvesting, fire or other causes have removed all or some of the overstorey. |
| Region | An area considered as a unit for geographical, functional, social or cultural reasons; an administrative division of a country. |
| Requirements | Need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory |
| Responsible Wood | Responsible Wood is the registered trading name of the Australian Forestry Standard Ltd. |
| Review | Activity of checking a normative document to determine whether it is to be reaffirmed, changed or withdrawn (IEC, 2004) |
| Revision | <p>Introduction of all necessary changes to the substance and presentation of a normative document</p> <p>NOTE The results of revision are presented by issuing a new edition of the normative document (IEC, 2004)</p> |

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| Riparian zone | An area, usually of linear configuration, that is geographically and ecologically associated with a river, stream or wetland. |
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| Term | Definition |
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| Rolling percentage calculation | Calculation of the certification percentage based on input material procured during the specified period before the product's manufacturing or trading. |
| Rotation | The planned number of years between regeneration or planting and the subsequent harvesting of a stand of trees. |
| Services | Intangible items which once delivered are complete. They cannot be checked for compliance prior to receipt. |
| Significant biodiversity values | <p>Any of the following natural values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • known or likely occurrences of threatened, vulnerable, rare, or endangered species, populations and their known and potential habitat; and/or as listed on current schedules of relevant legislation; • threatened, vulnerable, rare and endangered ecological communities or ecosystems and/or as listed on current schedules of relevant legislation; • regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity; • disjunct or outlier populations, refugia and centres of endemism; • old-growth forest which is rare or depleted within the forest type (generally less than 10% of the extant distribution); • ecosystems that are currently reserved at less than 15% of their pre-European distribution or equivalent benchmark time; • forest types or ecosystems and old-growth forest which are rare, depleted or under-represented in the regional conservation reserve system; • habitat of migratory species listed under the relevant legislation; or • Natural Heritage Places. |
| Silvicultural system | A planned program of treatments throughout the life of a stand to achieve stand structural objectives, for the production of forest products and services or other values based on integrated resource management goals. A silvicultural system includes harvesting, regeneration and stand-tending methods or phases. It covers all activities for the entire length of a rotation or cutting cycle. |
| Silviculture | The science and practice of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Simple percentage calculation | <p>Calculation of the certification percentage based on input material physically included in the product for which the calculation is made.</p> <p>Note: An example of the simple percentage calculation is a printing job where the certification percentage is calculated from the material purchased and used for this specific printing job.</p> |
| Site | <p>The area in which a plant or stand grows, considered in terms of its environment, particularly as this determines the type and quality of the vegetation the area can carry.</p> |
| Social benefit | <p>The non-monetary and rarely calculable benefits to society arising from forms of un-priced economic activity.</p> |
| Stakeholder | <p>There are two types of stakeholders included in this definition. Interested stakeholders are groups and individuals who have environmental, economic, social, cultural interests in the management of the defined forest area. Affected stakeholders are individuals or groups directly impacted by the enterprise's activities.</p> |
| Stakeholder engagement plan | <p>A plan or a collection of plans, documents or other instruments that have been prepared by, or for, or are available to, the forest manager that demonstrates compliance with the requirements specified in the Standard for proactive engagement with stakeholders.</p> |
| Stakeholders | <p>Stakeholders comprise all those groups who have an interest in the standard because they are affected by it and wish therefore to contribute to the process of the development of the standard. Stakeholders participate in the technical work of the development of the standard through national delegations appointed by the member bodies or, if they are organized in international or broadly-based organizations, through liaison organizations.</p> |
| Stand | <p>A distinguishable unit of forest consisting of trees sufficiently uniform in species composition, structure, and growing on a sufficiently uniform site.</p> |
| Standard | <p>Document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context</p> <p>NOTE Standards should be based on the consolidated results of science, technology and experience, and aimed at the promotion of optimum community benefits (IEC, 2004)</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| Standardization | <p>Activity of establishing, with regard to actual or potential problems, provisions for common and repeated use, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context</p> <p>NOTE 1 In particular, the activity consists of the processes of formulating, issuing and implementing standards.</p> <p>NOTE 2 Important benefits of standardization are improvement of the suitability of products, processes and services for their intended purposes, prevention of barriers to trade and facilitation of technological cooperation. (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Structural elements | <p>The components of habitat determined by their location and arrangement such as standing and fallen dead wood, hollow bearing trees, rocks and caves.</p> |
| Sub-contractor | <p>A person who supplies services to Responsible Wood to augment existing staff skills.</p> |
| Supplier | <p>A clearly identified single entity directly supplying input material to the relevant product group. In cases where the material is physically delivered by an entity other than that having the ownership title to the material, the organisation shall appoint a single supplier for the purposes of this definition, either an entity with the ownership title or an entity physically delivering the material.</p> <p>Note: For example, material procured by a printing house from a distributor and delivered directly by a paper producer may be considered as supplied either by the distributor or paper producer. The term supplier also covers an internal supplier within the organisation where more subsequent product groups exist.</p> |

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| Sustainable yield | <p>The sustainable yield is a schedule of planned wood flows to be harvested over an extended planning period in order to meet the objectives of the organization subject to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applying the relevant contractual and other supply commitments, silvicultural regimes, operational and social considerations; • maintaining management and protection of the estate during any intervals in which wood flows cease or are markedly reduced; • ensuring that, at the end of the planning period, the forest as a whole is left in a better, or at least as good a, condition for future generations as at the start of the planning period, in terms of relevant metrics for productive capacity and other values; and • conducting periodic reviews to update the forest inventory and re-calculate sustainable yield, especially in order to adapt the Forest Management Plan to any unexpected changes since the last review. |
| Technical regulation | <p>Regulation that provides technical requirements, either directly or by referring to or incorporating the content of a standard, technical specification or code of practice</p> <p>NOTE A technical regulation may be supplemented by technical guidance that outlines some means of compliance with the requirements of the regulation, i.e. deemed-to-satisfy provision. (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Technical specification | <p>Document that prescribes technical requirements to be fulfilled by a product, process or service</p> <p>NOTE 1 A technical specification should indicate, whenever appropriate, the procedure(s) by means of which it may be determined whether the requirements given are fulfilled.</p> <p>NOTE 2 A technical specification may be a standard, a part of a standard or independent of a standard. (IEC, 2004)</p> |
| Thinning | <p>A silvicultural treatment made to reduce the stand density of trees to generate a financial return for the forest manager, to improve growth, enhance forest health, and or recover potential mortality.</p> |
| Threatening process | <p>A process that threatens, or may threaten, the survival, abundance or evolutionary development of a native species or ecological community including processes listed on current schedules of relevant Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation.</p> |
| Traditional uses | <p>Legal and authorized uses with a long habitual or customary history.</p> |

| Term | Definition |
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| Transparency | Information on current work programs and proposals is available to all interested parties. Transparency also includes the concepts of openness, participation on a non-discriminatory basis, impartiality and a balanced participation in the development process by interests that will be significantly affected by the final standard. |