FSC Forest Management Audit

Public Summary Report

Audit Conducted By	SGS 1, place des Alpes 1211 Genova Switzerland www.sgs.com
Contact Person	Knowledge Solutions / Forest Management Accreditation
Report last updated on	12 June 2023
Certificate Holder	Rayonier NZ Ltd – trading as Matariki Forests Trading Limited PO Box 9238, Newmarket, Auckland Auckland 1023 New Zealand www.matarikiforests.co.nz
Contact Person	Andy Fleming
Certified Forest Areas	Northland, Bay of Plenty, Hawkes Bay and Southland
FSC certificate registration code	SGS-FM/COC-000097
Certificate issue date	25 September 2021
Certificate expiry date	24 September 2026
Audit Sequence	0

This forest has been certified by SGS as meeting the requirements of FSC national forest standard FSC-STD-NZL-02-2023 Plantations EN_The FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for New Zealand version 02 of 17 Jan 2023.

Certificate Holder and Certification Body Details

Question	Inputs
Certificate Holder	
1.01 Certificate holder name *	Rayonier NZ Ltd – trading as Matariki Forests Trading Limited
1.02.1 Street Address *	PO Box 9238, Newmarket, Auckland
1.02.2 Address Line 2	
1.02.3 City *	Auckland
1.02.4 State or Province	
1.02.5 Postal Code	1023
1.03 Country *	New Zealand
1.04 Contact person full name *	Andy Fleming
1.05 Email *	Andy Fleming <andy.fleming@rayonier.com>
1.06 Telephone	64 (0) 93022988
1.07 Website *	www.matarikiforests.co.nz
Certificate Parameters	
1.08 FSC licence code *	FSC-C021569
1.09 Certificate code *	SGS-FM/COC-000097
1.10 Former certificate code (if any)	
1.11 Certificate type *	FM/COC
1.12 Group certificate *	No
1.13.1 Initial certification date *	2006-09-25
1.13.2 Most recent certification date *	2021-09-25
1.13.3 Certificate expiry date *	2026-09-24
1.14 Total number of MUs in the scope of certificate *	0
1.15 Total area certified *	159602,0.0 ha
1.16 Change of scope since previous audit *	No
1.16.1 Nature of scope change	Forest Management of plantations in the Bay of Plenty, South Canterbury, Otago and Southland regions of New Zealand for the production and sale of softwood and hardwood timber and Biomass in accordance with the FSC Accredited National Standard for New Zealand, version 02 of 17 Jan 2023.
1.17 Ecosystem services (ES) in the scope *	No
1.26 Continuous Improvement Procedure being followed	No
1.25 Name and/or location of the certified forest area(s)	Northland, Bay of Plenty, Hawkes Bay and Southland
Certification Body	
1.18 Certification body name *	SGS
1.19.1 Street Address *	1, place des Alpes
1.19.2 Address Line 2	
1.19.3 City *	1211 Genova
1.19.4 State	
1.19.5 Postal Code	
1.20 Country *	Switzerland
1.21 Contact person full name *	Knowledge Solutions / Forest Management Accreditation
1.22 Email *	forestry@sgs.com
1.23 Telephone	+ 598.95.020086
1.24 Website *	www.sgs.com

The evaluation process

Question	Inputs
Audit Parameters	
2.01 Audit type *	Surveillance
2.01.1 Audit sequence	
2.02 Audit start date *	2023-05-09
2.16 First stakeholder consultation date for this audit	2023-03-14
2.03 Audit finish date *	2023-05-18
2.04 Total person days *	7,0
2.05 Date of report *	2023-06-12
2.06 Total area under evaluation *	379.93 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 *	Yes
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 Plantations EN_The FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for New Zealand version 02 of 17 Jan 2023
2.09 Web link to the standard used	https://anz.fsc.org/fsc-forest-stewardship-standard-for-new-zealand-nz-fss#:~:text=After%20a%20comprehensive%20process%20of,wage%20requirements%3B%20better%20protection%20of
2.10 If applicable, the adaptation process of CB interim standard	NA

The evaluation process

Question	Inputs
Certification Decision	
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 *	Yes
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	None
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
2.23 Certification decision *	Maintain
2.24 Decision detail	
2.25 Decision date *	2024-04-01
2.26 Decision making entity *	SGSCH

Personnel / audit team

		Person Days		Expertise						
3.01 Name *	3.02 Role *	3.03 Prep / pre-evaluation *	3.04 On-site *	3.05.1 Forestry	3.05.2 Ecology	3.05.3 Sociology	3.05.4 Environment	3.05.5 Economics	3.06 Auditor UAN (enter 0 if none) *	3.07 Profile

Audit itinerary

4.01 Audit itinerary item Start Date	4.02 Hours	4.03 MUs or members	4.04 Activities	4.05 Site detail	Type of Site															
					4.06.1 Office	4.06.2 Stakeholders	4.06.3 Nursery	4.06.4 Protected land	4.06.5 Private land forest	4.06.6 Workers' amenities	4.06.7 Areas identified as high conservation value	4.06.8 Major disasters	4.06.9 Forest roads	4.06.10 Chemical storage sites	4.06.11 HCVA	4.06.12 Harvesting sites	4.06.13 Logging trails	4.06.14 Reinstated land	4.06.15 Protected high-density area	4.06.16 Other (please specify
	1,00	Canterbury	BG Opening meeting, including auditing against the new NZ standard. BG Certificate scope expansion and field visit details. Reviewing provided documents, requesting BG crew and forest visit. Visit Canterbury forests.	NA	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2023-09-05	8,00	Canterbury	The field visit will be refined after the opening meeting.	NA	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2023-09-06	9,00	Canterbury	BG Day spent assessing Principles 6, 9, and 10 and the selected indicators.	Four forests visited.	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2023-09-07	10,00	Canterbury	BG crew and forest visit. Visit BOP forests. The field visit will be refined after the opening meeting. BG Reviewing documents review and selecting information for the last of the selected indicators.	NA	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2023-09-13	10,00	Bay of plenty		3 forests visited	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2023-09-14	8,00	Bay of plenty		NA	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2023-09-06	8,00	Hawkes bay	CR Visit to the Napier forest	3 forests visited	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2023-09-12	8,00	Bay of plenty	BG interivew with staff member, review relevant paperwork for the criterias	N/a	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
2023-09-13	4,00	Bay of plenty	CR office meeting with team leader review of evidence for CARs	N/a	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

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.	Rayonier managed another areas out of the Scope - those are not included due to the client's decision.
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 *	30,0.00 ha
5.03.2 Other reasons *	235,0.00 ha

Forest management enterprise information

Question	Inputs
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	none
5.20 Description of environmental safeguards	Rayonier Environmental Management Plans recognise that the forests are subject to regulatory requirements, including the National Environmental Standard of Plantation Forestry (NES-PF). The plans state that “All operations will be carried out in accordance with all local and regional consent requirements and applicable legislative acts”.Site-specific works prescriptions contain an Environmental Guidelines section, which include operational setbacks from perennial waterways and indigenous vegetation for roading and earthworks and other forestry activities. Roading & Earthworks prescriptions contain Environmental Guidelines which state “Identified protected areas are not to be damaged during earthworks. Protected areas may include.Significant Native Areas, riparian areas, research or trial areas. An assessment of soil erosion susceptibility under the NES-PF rules is undertaken prior to harvesting. Tools available include lidar, slope map, aerial imagery, and erosion susceptibility map.

Group members

6.01 Group member name	6.02 Public contact	6.03 Address	6.04 Email (if available)	6.05 Sub-code (if applicable)	6.06 Certified area

Management Units

Area Units: ha

7.01 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 *
Area Totals	**0**				**0**		**123 533,00**	**36 069,00**	**159 602,00**
Northalnd	Temperate	Non-SLIMF	Private	Private	174,45300000	36,21300000	23 005,00	5 037,00	28 042,00
Bay of Plenty	Temperate	Non-SLIMF	Private	Private	176,87500000	38,00800000	27 850,00	9 754,00	37 604,00
Hawkes Bay	Temperate	Non-SLIMF	Private	Private	176,86500000	39,18800000	16 652,00	3 580,00	20 232,00
Canterbury	Temperate	Non-SLIMF	Private	Private	172,57900000	43,21500000	23 013,00	7 366,00	30 379,00
Southland	Temperate	Non-SLIMF	Private	Private	168,62100000	46,22100000	33 013,00	10 332,00	43 345,00

Main commercial timber species included in scope of the certificate

8.01 Species *	8.02 Product code *	8.03 Trade name	8.05 Remarks
Pseudotsuga menziesii	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Douglas fir	
Pinus radiata	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Pine	
Pseudotsuga menziesii	W1.1 Roundwood (logs	Logs	
Pinus muricata	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Eucalyptus	
Eucalyptus fastigata	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Eucalyptus	
Eucalyptus regnans	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Eucalyptus	
Eucalyptus delegatensis R.Baker	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Eucalyptus	
Sequoia sempervirens	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Coast redwood	
Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Wallis gold	
Cupressus lusitanica Mill.	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Benthamii	
Cupressus macrocarpa Hartw. ex Gord.	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Cypres	
Populus alba L.	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	white poplar	
Larix decidua	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	European larch	
Pinus Sylvestris	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Pinus Sylvestris	
Eucalyptus nitens	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Eucalyptus	
Eucalyptus saligna	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Eucalyptus	

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 *
glyphosate	Restricted	2502,350.0 ha	Pre-plant spray and Spot Release	12648,310.0 litres	Soil erosion and degradation: Meet the requirements of the generic mitigation and monitoring measures section of the ESRA. Pay attention to the timing of the operation. Evaluate both short term weather to ensure the pesticide is absorbed in the vegetation and not washed off by rain or dew and that the longer-term forecast does not identify events that could lead to erosion and sediment from the application site. Generic mitigation strategies are within the mitigation section of the ESRA. Water (groundwater, surface water, water supplies): Many practice standards are involved around precision spraying around water. Some are listed below. Refer to the generic mitigation strategies within the mitigation section of the ESRA for additional ones. For example, ensure the pesticide gets applied solely to the application area and that run-off or sedimentation from rain is eliminated. Also, use operators with proven track records and methods that help keep application rates at, or below, manufacturers label. Also refer to the health and welfare, social and infrastructure sections below for additional mitigation.
clopyralid	Unrestricted	353,510.0 ha	Pre-plant and release spraying	1238,410.0 litres	Other chemical pesticide. Weed control. Used to release trees from gorse, broom and wattles often in conjunction with other herbicides. All methods of delivery but often aerial application. Aerial, boom ground spraying, knapsack or spot gun.

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 *
metsulfuron	Unrestricted	20,0.0 ha	Pre-plant	,000.4 metric tonnes	Soil: Risks vary: Classed as very ecotoxic in the soil environment (NZ). Moderate to very high mobility in soil depending on the reference. Metsulfuron-methyl and its six major metabolites, based on experiments, have medium to very high mobility (EFSA) (KFoc = 4 - 207 ml/g). There is a higher mobility potential in alkaline soils than in acidic soils, as it is more soluble under alkaline conditions. Metsulfuron methyl has high solubility in water (2790 – 9500 mg/L). Water: Risks when in water: Hazard classed as very toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects. • Moderately persistent in water depending on site. Stable in water (aqueous hydrolysis) DT50 (pH7-9 (200c) and degrades at pH5 in 18-22 days. Metsulfuron methyl slowly degrades in water sediments (DT50 225 days). Health: Carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, teratogenicity, reproduction, and endocrine risks: Carcinogenicity- Negative for rats and mice in laboratory tests. Mutagenicity- Not mutagenic. Teratogenicity- Animal testing showed no developmental toxicity. Reproduction or reproductive toxicity- No effects were observed in rats. Endocrine disruption potential- unlikely to be an endocrine disruptor in mammals. However, no firm conclusion can be drawn on birds and fish. Mitigation measures: Staff involved with planning, managing and undertaking the operation need to be trained and have the appropriate certificates or approvals (need to be consiedered or done), Notify neighbours adjacent to the operation and potentially affected stakeholders before operations start (High care needed), Ensure a first aid kit is available at transport, storage and application sites (need to be consdered or done), etc.

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 *
picloram	Unrestricted	19,440.0 ha	Pre Plant and release	9,720.0 litres	Soil (erosion, degradation, biota, carbon storage): Risk levels to soil vary and include: Picloram is not classed as a risk to the soil environment. Very mobile in soil (Koc 13-60 mL/g, Kfoc 0.31-20.3 mL/g). Picloram is more mobile in soils with a pH>5. Moderate water solubility (430 mg/L). Low to highly persistence in soil depending on application concentration, temperature, soil type, and rainfall (DT50 (soil field studies) 20-300 days with avg 90 days, DT90 (soil field studies) 67-163 days). Picloram is degraded by photodegradation and microbial action. Non-target species: Picloram risks vary depending on non-target species: Aquatic: Toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects (NZ EPA 9.1 B, Aust H410). Low to moderate toxicity to fish depending on the source (LC50 (96hr) (rainbow trout) 8.8 mg/L), LC50 (96 hrs) (bluegill sunfish) 19.4 mg/L). Terrestrial: Will severely affects non-target vegetation sensitive to Picloram. Low acute toxicity for earthworms (LC50 (7 days) (earthworm) 4475 mg/kg). Social infrastructure: The risk to social infrastructure is likely low if the treatment area is well within the forest and away from in-forest or adjoining infrastructure. Picloram's persistence in soil and its high mobility are factors needing consideration. Mitigation measures: Consider for aerial operations a no aerial spray buffer around at risk sites, e.g. social infrastructure, water intakes, schools,horticulture or farming. Instead, treat by ground application (high care needed), In public use areas, consider if the treatment can occur outside of high use periods, e.g. hunting season (needs to be considered or done), etc.

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 *
terbuthylazine	Unrestricted	2477,740.0 ha	Pre-plant and release spraying	27114,0.0 litres	Water: Risk levels to water vary and include- Entering water. There are three pathways to enter water: directly into waterways from spray, overland flow from rain, and via the soil to groundwater. Low risk of migration into water sources with good application as terbuthylazine is strongly absorbed by soil. Risks when in water- Hazard classed as very toxic to aquatic life (acute and chronic). Degradation is moderately fast for both water sediment and in water (DT50 (water sediment) 70 days, (DT50 (water phase) 6-25 days. Lab tests in dark aerobic natural sediment Terbuthylazine had moderate to high persistence. Biodegradation is the primary driver since terbuthylazine is water and sunlight stable (hydrolysis and photolysis stable). Food and water: The risk to food and water is likely low. In forestry applications, it is unlikely to impact community water supplies. Also, Terbuthylazine is used in food producing primary sectors. For example, in pasture management, orchards, and crops like peas and sweetcorn. Potential risk of accidental or ongoing oral ingestion of Terbuthylazine by pesticide workers with poor on-the-job personal hygiene around food and drink. Mitigation measures: Monitoring to identify and describe social impacts of management activities, including where applicable, the health of workers exposed to pesticides (addtional care), Ensure the health and safety and environmental emergency procedures are understood (needs to be considered or done), etc.
trichlopyr	Unrestricted	3,0.0 ha	roadside spraying	9,0.0 litres	Other chemical pesticide. Weed control. It is used for pre and post-emergent control of perennial broad-leaved and woody weeds. Will kills hard to control species like blackberry, gorse and broom. Triclopyr is grass friendly. Lower rates are applied over young pines. All methods applied as a liquid. Often aerial application but also boom spraying, spot gun, knapsack, or basal bark/cut stump.

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 *
sodium fluoroacetate	Restricted	1582,0.0 ha	Pest Control required by Predatorfree	,000.4 metric tonnes	Risk levels to water are low and include: • Entering water: There are three pathways to enter water: directly into waterways, overland flow from rain, and via the soil to groundwater. • Aerially applied baits will enter streams directly, especially in operations with numerous gullies and low order streams, e.g. NZ hill country. Even then, aerial applications will result in only minute quantities of 1080 leaching into surface water. • Low risk of overland flow. 1080 cereal baits leach rapidly with rain. AUST: Other substrates, such as carrots, are more resistant to leaching but quickly desiccate and become unpalatable under dry conditions. Meat baits also detoxify by rainfall (and particularly by blowfly larvae). If not eaten, meat baits are likely to remain lethally toxic to dogs and foxes for up to 8 weeks, depending on rainfall and temperature. • Application rates of 1080 are low, a few grams per hectare for herbivore control and a gram or less for carnivore control. • Risks when in water: • Hazard classed as very toxic to aquatic life for liquid products. These are unlikely to be used anywhere near water as they are preparatory products rather than in a useable form. • Low risk caused by direct entry into waterways as 1080 rapidly dilutes and biodegrades. • 1080 rapidly dilutes to extremely low concentration levels. In cereal baits, half the concentration is leached within 5 hours, and eliminated in 30 hours. In a NZ study, 2098 water samples were taken following 1080 operations. Only three per cent of samples were found to contain traces of 1080 after 24 hours and, apart from one test suspected of contamination, the levels were around 0.2 parts per billion (ppb) for a short time after application, well below the NZ Ministry of Health drinking-water standard of 3.5 ppb. • 1080 Rapidly biodegrades in the presence of aquatic plants and micro-organisms. Laboratory studies show that concentrations decrease below detectable levels in 1 day at 23°C and 3 days at 7°C. Decomposition is slower in colder waters. 1080 is stable in sterile water. At least 70% of biotic degradation in
hexazinone	Unrestricted	1144,650.0 ha	Pre-plant and release spraying	1233,260.0 litres	Other chemical pesticide. Weed control. It is used for pre and post-emergent control of perennial broad-leaved and woody weeds. Will kills hard to control species like blackberry, gorse and broom. Triclopyr is grass friendly. Lower rates are applied over young pines. All methods applied as a liquid. Often aerial application but also boom spraying, spot gun, knapsack, or basal bark/cut stump.

Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
11.28 Description of the forest	Bio-physical setting The Northland Region consists of blocks of exotic forests with a geographical spread of approximately 200km from the northern to southern-most parts of the estate. The estate comprises of just over 23,000 hectares in this region. The forests within the Northland region have their own characteristics. Forest sites range from flat rolling countryside to steep hill country all at low - mid altitude range. The forests grow within sub-tropical climatic conditions with a relatively high rainfall per annum of 1600-1700 mm. The Bay of Plenty region has forests extending from the Coromandel to the Eastern Bay of Plenty. Sites range from coastal hills to rolling country. The area is known for extreme weather events. Hawkes Bay forests are typically among the most productive in NZ with site indexes ranging up to 36m and average projected MAI of 29.6m3/ha per annum at age 28. The region has warm summers, often dry and exposed to drought, and mild winters. The estate consists of several forests accessed off SH5 and SH2 North of Napier. Southern North Island Region now falls under this Region. Site productivity in Manawatu and Wanganui regions vary widely by location. Some forests in the Southern North Island were originally established on sand dunes to protect the farmlands and the railway land from sand encroachment. As a result, the forests are long and narrow. Sites close to the sea still have their original protection plantings. These stands offer protection to the rest of the crop from salt laden winds. Production over most of the forest is low although growth improves markedly approximately 1 km inland from the coast. In the Canterbury Region approx 50% of the forested area is flat, being on the plains. The remainder is in the foothills. The foothills estate is more productive. The plains estate comprises Eyrewell and Balmoral forests, both of which are under land use and tenure review by the landowner, the Ngai Tahu Iwi. The Southern region forests are a diverse mixture. This diversity is a result of location, altitude, exposure, soil types and original vegetative cover. The plantation crop consists of predominantly Radiata pine (70%), Douglas fir (20%) and range of minor exotic species stands. Radiata pine is best suited to high productivity, lower altitude sites where snow and wind have a lower probability of damaging the crop. Douglas fir can tolerate harsher site and climate conditions and can be managed more effectively where there is risk of heavy woody weed or disease infection. Geography: The forests within the Northland Region reside mainly on steep to very steep broken topography that are highly erosive, however Topuni and Tinopai are both relatively flat to rolling terrain. In the Glenbervie Main Block there are six watershed catchments where five of these are the headwaters of the rivers. Three feed into the Northern Wairoa River via the Wairau River on the west coast. Another three feed into catchments that discharge on the east coast including the Hatea River that flows out through the Whangarei Harbour and the largest catchment that includes the Ngunguru River. Mokau and Tutukaka blocks are situated within close proximity (250-400m)
11.29 Description of the management system	Planning process The owner/manager's strategic (long term: rotation or harvest cycle length), tactical (medium term: 3-5 years) and operational (annual or biannual) management and financial planning system. Rayonier Matariki Forests (RMF) planning process is underpinned by its forest information management system, a schematic is outlined below. Planning is undertaken annually. The integrated aims for this project are generally: 1.generate an internal strategic plan; 2.aid in the preparation of regional business and 3-year plans; 3.provide data for the 12 Year Plan Project to better understand the impact of changing wood flow and production cost profiles beyond the 3-year horizon; and 4.prepare and audit data for an external valuation that is required by Matariki shareholders and under International Financial Reporting Standards (NZ IAS 41) as adopted by the Matariki Board. The process commences with estate model runs, using WOODSTOCK (www.remsoft.com) model. Areas and yields are updated annually, to reflect the state of the resource. This process models woodflows over an entire nominal rotation (30 years radiata, 45 years Douglas fir) and establishes high level view of available yields. 12 year and 3-year plan These tactical level plans introduce constraints – operational, environmental, and market constraints. Regional input and expertise is applied in applying constraints to arrive at woodflows that are feasible. Woodflows are typically smoothed to take these constraints into account. The first year of the 3-year plan becomes the operational plan of the following year budget. A further process of internal review occurs before the budget is finalised. Financial planning is integrated with the woodflow planning described above. RMF uses SAP as its transactional and financial forecasting system An outline of the process, (noting that each step has a number of sub-processes) is outlined below. All process documentation is contained within PROMAPP, and online tool for process documentation The system the owner/manager uses to develop and revise policies and operational procedures, and how these are communicated to operational staff. The development of policies and operational procedures is driven by risk – which may be identified either at the strategic level, or operational level. Strategic level risks and their controls are reviewed depending upon the level of residual risk (post controls) and ranges from monthly to annually. The need for operational procedures is driven by operational staff. The forum for the raising of these is via Functional group meetings
11.01 Legislative, administrative and land use context of the forest operation	Legislative, Administrative and Land Use Context The forest management enterprise operates within the framework of the New Zealand legal and commercial system. The legislation is described in Section 6 Central government agencies involved are the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE), which administers the Health and Safety in Employment legislation, and also monitors compliance with the HASNO Act regulations. The Department of Conservation, a neighbour in many parts of the country and which administers the Wild Animal Control Act and the Conservation Act; Heritage NZ administers the Historic Places Act. The Biosecurity Act is administered by the Animal Health Board and Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) Biosecurity. Territorial government administration is through the various Regional and District Councils in regions where the company operates. These councils administer the Resource Management Act and issue resource consents for specific activities regarding soil and water. Some local District Councils administer aspects of local infrastructure especially rural roads.
11.02 Roles of responsible government agencies involved in aspects of forest management	Local government (Regional and District Councils) are responsible for the regulations related to forest activities outlined in the RMA (NES-PF), this means they regularly undertake compliance checks to ensure all rgulations are being complied with by the certificate
11.03 Ownership and use-rights (both legal and customary) of lands and forest of external parties other than the certificate holder	The company has a mix of leasehold, forestry rights and partnership with iwi
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	No
11.04.3 agriculture	No
11.04.4 hunting	Yes
11.04.5 commercial tourism	No
11.04.6 other, please specify	

Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
11.05 Forest management objectives	RNZ's vision is to grow a successful and sustainable future. RNZ is committed to health and safety excellence. Its policy states that first and foremost, it cares about people and does not want anybody harmed in its business. RNZ believes that good health and safety performance and good business performance go hand in hand. RNZ is also committed to meeting its obligations under Health and Safety Legislation, Codes of Practice, and any relevant Standards or Guidelines. RNZ is committed to sound environmental management, as a fundamental business objective.
11.06 Land use and ownership status of the forest resource	The company has a mix of freehold, leasehold, forestry rights and partnership with iwi
11.07 Socio-economic conditions of the forest management	Rayonier have staff and workers mainly from New Zealand, main language speak is English. The company has 5 FMU in the north and south Islands.The predominant Iwi (main tribal group) for most of the South Island is the Ngai Tahu. It is generally recognised that this tribe represents the interests of Maori of local ancestry. The North Island has a large number of Iwi and the company continues to build strong relationships with the local Maori. Areas having special spiritual, cultural or historical tribal significance to Maori are known as Waahi Tapu. Special care is taken to ensure such areas are not disturbed and consultations carried out to determine where these exist in forest areas. These areas have been highlighted in planning documents and Historic Places Trust authorities are sought when forestry operations occur in the vicinity of these sites.
11.08 Brief description of forest composition	The company owned and/or managed 159602 hectares of forestland in the North and South Islands of New Zealand.
11.09 Profile of adjacent lands	
11.09.1 urban	No
11.09.2 agriculture	Yes
11.09.3 wetland	Yes
11.11 Division of forest management responsibilities	Organisational flowchart, for distribution of responsibilities.The company has a national office in Auckland and regional offices within each of the FMU regions. Each regional office has a regional manager and their regional team to meet operational expectation from the company.
11.12 Use of contractors by the certificate holder	
11.27 The final point or forest gate of the certified product	
11.27.1 log yard	No
11.27.2 road side	No
11.27.3 other, please specify	customer 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	Earthmoving	Good relationship with the company	Yes	No	No negative comments.
Environmental interests	Council	Generally no issues with the company and staff	Yes	No	No negative comments.
Environmental interests	NGO	Strong relationship with Rayonier	Yes	Yes	No negative comments.
Local communities, residents	neighbour	Good relationship with the company	Yes	No	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	truck driver	Work constructively with company	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvesting contractor	Work constructively with company	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvesting contractor	Been with the company for decades	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Environmental interests	Council	Good company to deal with. Better than many in the region.	Yes	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvesting contractor	The company is reasonable, and listens.	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.

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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	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.
Forest workers, contractors	Harvest worker	company supervisor good to work with	No	Yes	No negative comments.

Nonconformities/Observations raised

14.01 Unique Finding number *	14.02 CB Non-conformity Ref	14.06 Grading *	14.07 Open / Closed *	14.08 Standard *	14.09 Clause *	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	14.13 CB's review of corrective actions
2022-C021569-08	CAR 08	Minor	Closed	NFSS	6.1.7	2022-08-17	2023-08-16	2023-08-16	A record shall be kept to identify corrective actions where non compliance with prescriptions occurs.	Non compliances for FSC were not recorded under ENSAFE. Review of ENSAFE CAR entries.	The company has updated their procedure under PROMAP V31.0 and now CARs follow up are allocate to more than one role to avoid the due day to be pass. CARs are now assigned to the Director Forests Investment, Environmental Manager and Regional Manager	It is evidence of the CARs for FSC and PEFC been added to the ENSAFE system – due day of completing the actions take to close the CAR for FSC CARs was CARS were notified by the Env Manager to SGS as per procedure on the 16 Aug 2023.
2022-C021569-09	CAR 09	Minor	Closed	NFSS	6.2.3	2022-08-17	2023-08-16	2023-08-16	Indigenous habitat supporting rare, threatened or endangered species and identified as being significant to their life cycle shall be identified and protected in management planning.	Indigenous habitat supporting rare, threatened or endangered species and identified as being significant to their life cycle shall are not always correctly identified in management planning. Although all native areas are identified in the operational maps, interviews in the field confirmed that Protected areas SEA status levels are not able to be identified on maps in the Geomaster system.	Rayonier GIS Analysts has created a Geomaster Mobile Instructions V2023.1 to be able to see the Status of each SEA under the mapping system.	It is evidence of prescriptions been update (Plan updates and changes 901-010-01 dated 30 Aug 2022, 612-015-09, 612-015-09, 910-012-31)– showing SNA category 3
2022-C021569-11	CAR 11	Minor	Closed	NFSS	6.9.1	2022-08-17	2023-08-16	2023-08-16	Forest managers shall comply with any applicable regional pest management strategy including where this identifies a wilding species as a pest.	Forest managers were not always comply with any applicable regional pest management strategy including where this identifies a wilding species as a pest. However wilding control in other areas (e.g. Canterbury) appear to be reliant on local authority requirements rather than company specific processes and or procedures. If controls do not come from the NES-PF, which affects afforestation only, there is no common process for wilding control. There is no company wide Wilding Control system (Integrated Pest Management System) describing how the organisation will meet the requirements of an RPMS where wildings are identified as a pest and implement those	The company has updated their process under promap now is steps to follow for wilding control	The company has updated their process under promap now is steps to follow for wilding control
2022-C021569-12	CAR 12	Minor	Closed	NFSS	7.2.5	2022-08-17	2023-08-16	2023-08-16	There shall be a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan and there is evidence of plan revision consistent with the timetable.	There is a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan and there is evidence of plan revision consistent with the timetable, however version and dates of the documents are not well maintained There is a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan however there is not clear evidence of plan revision consistent with the timetable. However, there is no evidence that all management plan documents are regularly kept up to date. For example, there appears to be more than one version of the harvest prescription available and those sighted do not have any version control system	CAR 12 is close and now raise as Major CAR 13	CAR 12 is close and now raise as Major CAR 14
2023-C021569-13	CAR M13	Major	Open	NFSS	7.2.5	2023-08-17	2023-11-16	2023-11-10	There shall be a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan and there is evidence of plan revision consistent with the timetable.	There is a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan and there is evidence of plan revision consistent with the timetable, however version and dates of the documents are not well maintained. There is a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan however there is not clear evidence of plan revision consistent with the timetable. However, there is no evidence that all management plan documents are regularly kept up to date. For example, there appears to be more than one version of the harvest prescription available and those sighted do not have any version control system in place. There is no evidence that documents used to implement portions of the Management Plan are current, updated or revised according to any set criteria such as a timetable.	Action plan as follow: Review of the documents to identify which templates are missing the latest version details. Confirm all the latest version and send those to the contractors and staff. Set a review withing the Promapp system to control if everyone is using the same version, Evidence and Actions taken, 25 Oct 2023 – audit system review – this includes the CARs review of the SGS audit 2023. Review of the latest procedures/prescription have been reviewed and share with all the regions, the latest procedures are under the company SharePoint (Promapp) After the audit was completed – review of the procedures and templates was done, for example for the harvesting team latest harvesting prescription is called HB23.1 dated 17 Oct 2023 this has been used in the operation since the changes after the audit.	Evidence of this document use for another regions example: Harvest Plan for sale area 612-030-02 used the latest harvesting template – Region Bay of plenty – Omataroa Forest – dated of the plan 27 Oct 2023 Harvest Plan for sale area 609-096-3 used the latest harvesting template – Region Bay of plenty – Tairua Forest – dated of the plan 26 Oct 2023 Harvest Plan for sale area 907-046-01S used the latest harvesting template – Region Canterbury – Ashely Forest – dated of the plan 2 Nov 2023 Another example if the latest template for Planting those are done per region – latest version called BOP23.1 dated 17 Oct 2023 for Hawkes bay HB23.1 dated 17 Oct 2023 (this document has not changes done after the audit – the only things that have been done is adding the document details) As part of the measure to avoid this issue to happen again the company implemented a monitoring as of procedure and templates for operations. Bookings under Promapp Internal environmental audit performance procedure is book for 20 Dec 2023 The next PEFC internal audit review is book for 25 April 2024 book under Promapp
2023-C021569-14	CAR 14	Minor	Open	NFSS	2.1.4	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		The Organisation respects the full freedom of workers' organisations to draw up their constitutions and rules.	There was no documentation stating the company's position around union matters although in practice management say workers are free to join.		
2023-C021569-15	CAR 15	Minor	Open	NFSS	2.3.1	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		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.	The company is not checking hazards and risks for yarder access and guarding. The field visit highlighted that all the yarders visited had access and guarding hazards and risks For example, access onto the Marshall's harvest line required high stepping about a metre onto the machine without use of steps or a guard rail. Original manufacturers guarding was removed from hydraulic area requiring 'delicate' footing. There was evidence of paint removed by boots over an extended period of time. There were several yarders that exposed sprockets and chains close to where		
2023-C021569-16	CAR 16	Minor	Open	NFSS	6.1.3	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		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.	The company does not progressively conduct fine level evaluations of conservation zones and protection areas to establish specific mgmt. requirements. Fine level evaluation has a specific definition in the 2023 NZ Standard. The SEA surveys measure basic parameters but do not meet the definition of fine level evaluations within the FSC standard. The last assessments at a fine level were for the HCVs in 2017. Also, the company SEA		

Nonconformities/Observations raised

14.01 Unique Finding number *	14.02 CB Non-conformity Ref	14.06 Grading *	14.07 Open / Closed *	14.08 Standard *	14.09 Clause *	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	14.13 CB's review of corrective actions
2023-C021569-17	CAR 17	Minor	Open	NFSS	6.4.5	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		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 company does not always manage RTEs to protect their survival and viability.The company does not always protect RTEs because they do not follow up on sightings that could lead to the identification of new populations of RTEs. Two specific examples were identified in the audit. Kiwi sign was identified by the water monitoring person at		
2023-C021569-18	CAR 18	Minor	Open	NFSS	6.6.4	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		Management maintains, enhances, or restores habitat features* associated with native ecosystems, to support the diversity of naturally occurring species and their genetic diversity.	Management does not always maintain, enhances or restores habitat features, even when impacts are known.The company has a programme of assessing significant environmental areas. The program is widely implemented across many sites annually, e.g. in BOP between 35 -50 sites were assessed in 2022 and 2023. However, a work plan to generate actions is not implemented as an outcome of the SEA review as some sites require management activities to maintain or restore the site, e.g. removing wildings in Maramarua Forest was identified in 2022 but not done. No company CAR was raised in Fosafe		
2023-C021569-19	CAR 19	Minor	Open	NFSS	9.4.3	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		A public summary of monitoring results is made available, excluding Confidential information.	All HCVs do not have publicly available monitoring results.The HCV mgmt. plans do not describe whether the management strategies have been effective over time and whether the HCV values are being maintained or enhanced. Goals do not always provide specific timeframes for the work		
2023-C021569-20	CAR 20	Minor	Open	NFSS	9.4.5	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		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.	The HCV mgmt. plans do not describe whether the management strategies have been effective over time and whether the HCV values are being maintained or enhanced. Goals do not always provide specific timeframes for the work.The company has management strategies and actions for HCVs. These are within the individual HCV mgmt. plans. It is evident that they are updated regularly, and they describe management goals and the timing of these. However, the strategies do not conclude whether the effective/ineffective or whether the work is maintaining or enhancing the HCV values. They also do not always provide a clear goal of when a strategy		
2023-C021569-21	CAR 21	Minor	Open	NFSS	10.7.4	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		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	Staff that are managing chemical operations need GrowSafe certificates to formally demonstrate their knowledge of chemical management.Many forest growing staff do not have growsafe certificates although they are supervising or managing forestry plant pesticide operations. For example, in Canterbury it appeared that no staff in the forestry team have GrowSafe certificates. Although staff do not touch, transport or mix chemicals, the Growsafe certificate provides management oversight of important aspects of chemical management.		
2023-C021569-22	OBS 03	Obs	Open	NFSS	1.6.1	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		A publicly available dispute resolution process* is in place and modified where necessary in in Culturally appropriate engagement* with affected stakeholders.	The company refers directly to the NZ ombudsman and the USA as a main contact and not the NZ process in the first instance. The company does not have its NZ dispute process (complaints mgmt. SOP) online		
2023-C021569-23	OBS 04	Obs	Open	NFSS	6.4.2	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		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	When the company closes out CAR18 (indicator 6.6.4), the company needs to address the requirements within this indicator around how management will maintain the different RTE species		
2023-C021569-24	OBS 05	Obs	Open	NFSS	10.3.4	2023-09-14	2024-09-13		The Organisation complies with any applicable Regional Council pest* management strategy including where this identifies a wilding species as a pest*.	The Canterbury office does not have a document that clearly lays out the requirements of the ECAN RPMP, so although the indicator is met, there is no formal process to ensure that it remains so. The Southland Plan could serve		

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 *

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

Principles & Criteria Summary

18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.	**0**	
Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.	0	There is a comprehensive Environmental Management System that keeps staff to keep up to date with relevant legislation changes. ENSAFE is the electronic front end of the Environmental Management System. Codes of practice are used during planning and resource consents are obtained for operations requiring consent.
All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.	0	Demonstrated payment of all prescribed fees and taxes (e.g. Land Lease, Crown Forest License and Forestry Right fees). Annual budgets make provision for all known fees, taxes and costs.
In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.	0	International agreements are controlled by Government departments – Department of Conservation and Ministry of Primary industries . No conflicts were evident. The EMS keeps staff up to date with international legislation requirements.
Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification, on a case by case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties.	0	Potential conflicts have been noted by the company.There is a potential conflict emerging between the requirements of the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and criteria 10.5 and 6.2.Other potential conflicts relate to the Animal Health Board requiring aerial application of 1080 for possum control, for bovine Tb eradication. RMF has applied for an
Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	0	There is a "Trespassing on Matariki Foresis Land" document detailing all steps to be taken when any illegal activity is identified in the organisation's forests. The following steps must be followed: assess the situation prior to approaching the trespasser; approaching the trespasser; when to issue a trespass notice.All gates are locked in the forests, private property signage is in every entrance. Forestry supervisors travel across the forests every week and when detecting any illegal situation, the procedure is applied
Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.	0	There is a commitment from the Managing Director to pursue FSC certification across the full Rayonier New Zealand Limited estate. In addition, the Environmental and Sustainability Policy outlines the company's commitment to sustainability, and documents how it will be demonstrated. This is displayed in each regional office.
Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.	**0**	
Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.	14	For those forest that belong to IWIs there is a Crown Forestry Licence (CFL) signed between the organisation and the IWI where all legal rights of the IWI are identified.On lands that are not under a CFL Rayonier has created a "Cultural, Historic and Archaeological Site Accidental Discovery ERP" Map
Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.		All areas of significance importance for indigenous people that are within the forest are being protected, independently of what kind of area it is. Some areas are already described in the CFL as well as the conditions for managing themFor those areas that are discovered accidentally during the execution of operations and/or during the supervisors' visits there is an
Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified.	15	A clear dispute resolution procedure/process is in place within each land tenure document (e.g. within the Crown Forest License). Records of disputes are maintained within the PMAN system and within Complaints/Complements database. There are currently no active disputes over tenure or land use rights.
The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.	**0**	
Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	0	RMF have identified all Maori groups with an involvement in their forest estate. Where they have entitlements, e.g. access for hunting, these lease documents are recognised in management plans.Rights are clearly stated in lease documents, and are respected, Free and informed consent is documented in the signed Forestry Right and lease Agreements.
Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples.	0	The operational planning process shows the tenure and contacts for all freehold, leasehold and forestry right lands. Iwi are involved in any resource consent application, but RMF consult with local Iwi as a matter of course Permits under S14 of the Historic Places Act are obtained when required.

Principles & Criteria Summary

18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers.	0	All indigenous sites are recorded in GIS and are being protected. There is a spreadsheet "Archaeological sites Matariki in GIS October 2020". In the system is recorded the ID of the site, what type of site it is, the management for the site and the forest.There is also a "Protected Site Management SOP. Archaeological. Biological, Historical & Managerial Sites" March 2011. This document describes all steps to follow to create a management plan and to protect the sites from the operations.
Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.	0	Traditional knowledge is not used for plantation management.The use of the KTT in the Coromandel has utilised Maori knowledge of archaeological sites. Agreed charges or Koha are paid for work relating to cultural sites.
Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.	**0**	
The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services.	0	Maori carving students. The company aims to be present when their community need it. After the Christchurch earthquake occurred, they offered assistance As well as a donation, they set up a free fire wood scheme to help keep Christchurch residents warm over winter. Great lengths to deliver logs to Maori carving students. William Colenso College in Hawke's Bay are now enjoying carving classes with native wood, sourced from dead Matai and Totara trees found in the forests.
Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.	0	There is a "Rayonier Health and Safety System Manual" version 2, reviewed on June 2020. This document reflects the requirements under the H&S act. 2015. These are some of the chapters covered under the H&S manual: Section 2 Emergency Procedures; Section 3 Engagement Participation & Representation; Section 4 Employee Health & Safety Induction; Section 5 Employee Training, Instruction, Supervision and Information; Section 6 Employee Health Monitoring & Workplace Inspections; Section 7 Employee
The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).	0	Rayonier is hiring contractors' companies for the execution of the operations. These companies contract workers for which they have individual employment agreements. In these agreements it is stipulated the wages, allowances when applicable, sick leave, annual leave, etc. This was
Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.	0	The company almost exclusively hires local services across its regions. This includes all aspects of the business from land prep, forest establishment and tending, earthworks and construction, harvesting, aerial operations, and cartage. Many of the contractors and their employees have worked for the company for decades.
Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.	0	The dispute resolution process is documented in the EMS. No current disputes are on record and none were reported to SGS as part of the evaluation process.
Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.	**0**	
Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.	0	Full use is made of the available allowable cut for each region in each year. Economic viability was evident.Budgets make provision for meeting all operation, environmental and social costs.
Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.	0	Log sale preference is given to local processing companies. The majority of forest produce is processed locally.Pinus radiata continues to be the predominant species within the estate, although some planting of Douglas fir is still being undertaken on appropriate sites.
Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.	0	Harvest planning is undertaken in accordance with national best practice guidelines and resource consent conditions. Appropriate harvesting systems are used according to the site to minimize breakage and to
Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.	0	Rayonier identifies all productive uses of the forest area that will maintain or enhance the productive capacity of the forest and the economic viability of the company. There is a MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020 – 2024- Board Approved: 13 November 2019, where all the productive and economic analysis is presented.All forest operations are managed to protect the water. Waterways management measures change according to the stream
Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.	0	Matariki Environmental Guidance version 2.1 dated on August 2020. Section "Waterbody Slash Management requirements" of this document has the Matariki Stream Classification System. Three different types of stream are defined as per their dimensions. Regarding soils the company uses the NES-PF requirements for soils classifications and the green, yellow, orange
The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.	0	Rayonier identifies all productive uses of the forest area that will maintain or enhance the productive capacity of the forest and the economic viability of the company. There is a MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020 – 2024- Board Approved: 13 November 2019, where all the productive and economic analysis is presented.

Principles & Criteria Summary

18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.	**0**	
Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed - appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources - and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations.	16	Matariki Environmental Guidance version 2.1 dated on August 2020. Section "Waterbody Slash Management requirements" of this document has the Matariki Stream Classification System. Three different types of stream are defined as per their dimensions. Regarding soils the company uses the NES-PF requirements for soils classifications and the green, yellow, orange and red zones.
Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected	0	Indigenous reserve areas (RTE habitat) have been identified at the coarse level across the estate and priorities assigned for protection. All areas are protected during operations via operational plans. Weed and pest control programmes occur in forest.
Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including: a) Forest regeneration and succession. b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity. c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem	0	The overall ecological status of the plantation estate is known and is typical for exotic plantations within New Zealand. Management systems are appropriate. Wildings are monitored and controlled as required. Environmental monitoring is undertaken. The health of the forest is monitored annually via the Forest Health Survey.
Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.	0	The experts' monitorings (see 3.3.2) were done to define the areas and to defined management and monitoring indicators for these ones. Based on these monitoring results, Rayonier has created a "Matariki Environmental Guidance version 2.1 dated on August 2020" where in its section "Protected Area Management" all the conditions for managing the areas according to the category are described. In this document is also defined the frequency for the monitoring of each category of SEA, for example category 1 are monitored annually, category 2 every 2 years and category 3 and 4 every 5 years. For the monitoring of these areas there is an app "Survey 123" and a function SEA plot sheet. In this plot sheet it is detailed for every SEA the monitoring indicators: ecological weed, palatable plants, animal's pests, RTF species, forest type coverage, etc.
Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.	0	There are also SOP's for the different forestry operations that set out the conditions for protecting the soils. Lot of actions are taken by Rayonier to protect the soils and all their properties. Environmental safeguards are put in place through the operational prescription as per the type of soil and the sites conditions when operating in any forest.
Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If	18	Rayonier is taking different actions to minimize the use of chemicals. When a chemical must be applied the company analyses the quantity to be applied to reduce the use of it due to environmental but also to economic issues.
Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.	0	Recycling of non-organic waste especially wire rope & oil is undertaken.Handling & use of chemicals by contractors complies with the Hasno Act.
Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.	0	The release of biological control agents has historically been undertaken as authorised by ERMA or its predecessor. Biological control release sites have been documented and mapped.
The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.	0	Exotic species used in the plantation resource are the nationally-preferred species.Significant wilding issues have been identified in Southland region and Canterbury. Control measures have been put in place'
Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion: a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.	0	No forest conversion was seen or reported to be occurring within the estate.

Principles & Criteria Summary

18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
A management plan - appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations - shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.	**0**	
The management plan and supporting documents shall provide: a) Management objectives. b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and	0	The management plan is not a single document, it is a series of documents that together gather all the information for managing and planning the operations by Rayonier.
The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.	0	On the intranet if there is a section with all documents that requires expiry date. All company's employees can access to "my dashboard" within Promapp, under "my dashboard" all the documents that require update are listed.
Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.	0	The organisation promotes training opportunities of its own staff and also of contractors' staff. In the Rayonier Health & Safety System Manual, Version Number 2.1, Date reviewed/modified: 15 July 2020, section 26, Supplier
While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.	0	Rayonier carries out different type of audit/monitoring to contractors and operations. Environmental audits are done in different frequencies depending on the aspect to be monitored and the operations, for example: Pruning and thinning once per crew per season; protected areas twice a year; harvesting twice annually per crew; fuels and oils in conjunction with operational forms; etc.
Monitoring shall be conducted - appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management - to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.	**0**	
The frequency and intensity of monitoring should be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.	0	Rayonier carries out different type of audit/monitoring to contractors and operations. Environmental audits are done in different frequencies depending on the aspect to be monitored and the operations, for example: Pruning and thinning once per crew per season; protected areas twice a year; harvesting twice annually per crew; fuels and oils in conjunction with
Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators: a) Yield of all forest products harvested	0	The organisation is permanently involved in research and developments' programs to improve the management system when possible. The "Research Development and Technical Services 2020 budget" was
Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the "chain of custody".	0	A robust CoC procedure/process is in place which utilises a log delivery docket system from forest compartment to the customer. Log delivery dockets and invoices for certified sales contain the FSC 100% claim and the
The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.	0	The company is a member of a number of research organisations. Results are analysed on a regular basis and incorporated into work programmes.
While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.	0	The company monitors the indicators listed in 8.2 in a variety of ways, uses and passes on the information to the public as required.
Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be	**0**	
Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management.	0	The estate has been independently assessed and reserve areas within the estate have been categorised into 5 classes. The documented view is that no HCVFs are present within the Southland estate. The company has identified the heritage block in Hanmer forest as HCVF 6, being of importance to the local community. The Hanmer Heritage area management plan (2008 – 2013) has been written.
The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.	0	The appropriate management prescriptions for the Hanmer Heritage Forest HCVF have been written into the management plan. Production thinning of the Larch area was agreed to through consultation with the Trust. There is joint governance with the Trust.
The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.	0	The management objectives and social attributes of the Hanmer Heritage area are described in the management plan.
Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.	19,20	Ongoing consultation occurs with the kakabeak recovery group and other local kakabeak restoration projects (e.g. Forest Life Force trust/Maungataniwha) to identify likely kakabeak habitat areas within the FMU (evidence: interview with Rayonier Hawkes Bay Environmental Coordinator). Similar consultation and collaboration (with iwi, Nga Whenua Rahui, BOPRC, Kiwis for Kiwi) is occurring for the Puhikoko kiwi protection project.

Principles & Criteria Summary

18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
Plantations shall be planned and managed in accordance with Principles and Criteria 1-9, and Principle 10 and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.	**0**	
The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.	0	Management objectives are stated in Plans.There is regular assessment of performance against stated objectives
The design and layout of plantations should promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests, and not increase pressures on natural forests. Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods, shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest	0	Indigenous vegetation areas are identified across the estate, protected, mapped and are appropriately managed. All streams and waterways within the estate have been classified and mapped according to their significance. Replanted blocks follow the existing plantation areas, apart from some areas which are not replanted. The forests are away from areas of local significance
Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures	0	The forest estate is now largely focussed on Pinus radiata, with Douglas fir more common in the higher altitudes in the South Island.
The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity	0	Various species and provenances of those species have been trialled to arrive at the mix of species and provenances currently used. Rayonier New Zealand is part of the national Forest Health Surveillance Programme
A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.	0	A significant area within the estate (approximately 15%) is currently in natural vegetation and is being appropriately protected to maintain the natural vegetation cover.
Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility, and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns.	0	Soil information is available at a broad scale and the forest estate is routinely monitored for reductions in productivity. Soil information continues to be available within the GIS system via a Land Use Classification layer. This GIS layer details soil types and slope gradients that could result in erosion susceptibilities in key forests within the estate. This information creates base level risk analysis for planning forestry operations, such as roading or harvesting which is added to as part of the harvest planning SOP
Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimize outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Plantation management should make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.	21	The main forest pests and diseases have been identified and documented. An annual Forest Health Survey is undertaken by independent experts. The Company complies with the Animal Health Board and Biosecurity Act requirements for possum control on company lands within specified possum control areas. The company complies with the FSC pesticide policy.
Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts, (e.g. natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social well-being), in addition to those elements addressed in principles 8, 6 and 4. No species should be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or	0	Onsite impacts are formally assessed. Operations are monitored and audited to ensure that on-site impacts are eliminated or minimised. The company undertakes a range of monitoring for off-site impacts. There was no evidence of adverse social impacts. There is regular consultation with neighbours about operations. Many positive social impacts are evident through use of the forest by the local community for permitted activities
Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or	0	No forests are in areas converted after 1994. Rayonier New Zealand complies with the Forest Accord