



Annual Monitoring Review Whanganui Estate

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Introduction

SFNZ was established in 2013 and has maintained Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) FSC-C112972 certification since Juken New Zealand Limited original assessment in 2008. FSC is an international certification for companies who can demonstrate that they have a good record of environmental management. There are 10 principles covering responsible management of the resource, the environment, people and communities. This Annual Monitoring Review provides a summary of forest operations for the past 12 months and is available on request and is also publicly available on the Summit Forests web site <https://www.summitforests.co.nz/>.

SFNZ purchased the former Whanganui District Council estate in 2018 which has an area of approximately 1, 248 hectares. The estate consists of four forests: Te Ara To Waka, Tauwhare, McNabs and Sicelys.

The Gisborne and Whanganui Regional Manager; based in the Gisborne Office, is responsible for ensuring that all tasks are completed in line with company processes. The day-to-day operations of Whanganui Estate is contracted to Forest Management New Zealand Limited (FMNZ), based in Whanganui. Contractors carry out harvesting operations, road construction and maintenance, silviculture, and land preparation. SFNZ currently employs 5 contract workers in the Whanganui Region.

Forest Description

Inventory

No inventory has completed in the past 12 months.

Age class distribution

The estate has an uneven age class distribution (figure 1) with one aggregation in the young to mid-range age classes. Harvesting was completed in November 2021 and there will be gap until the next crop is available for harvest starting in approximately 2028.

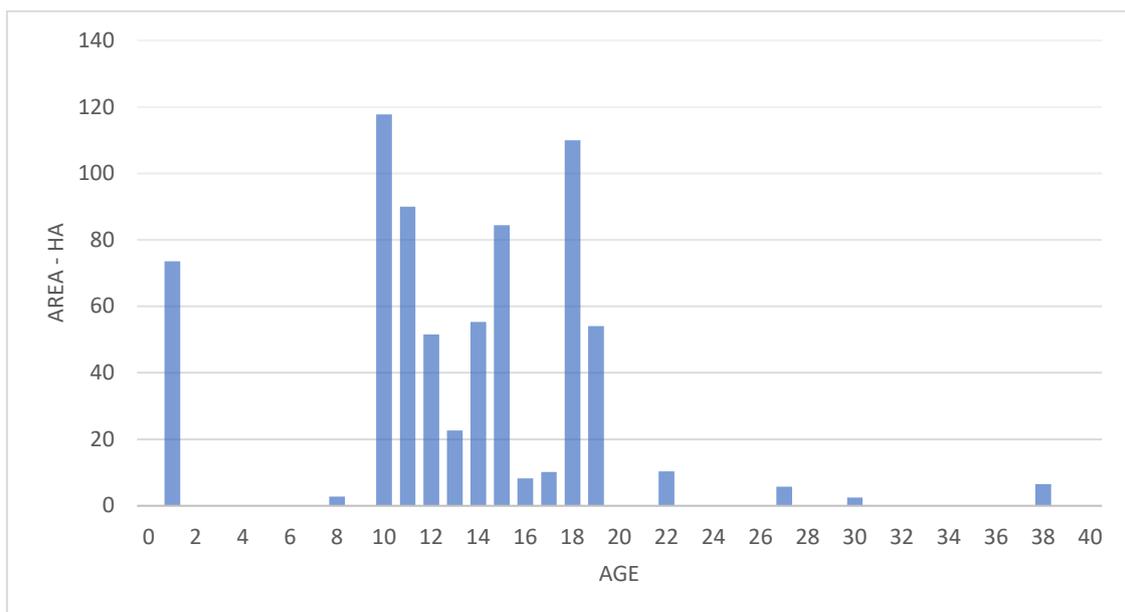


Figure 1 Area by age class distribution of the Whanganui Estate

Yield Reconciliation

Over the last 12 months the yield reconciliation between the predicted vs actual has shown that the actual production is slightly lower than expected but within the allowable limit for error. Harvesting was only completed in Sicelys forest during this period.

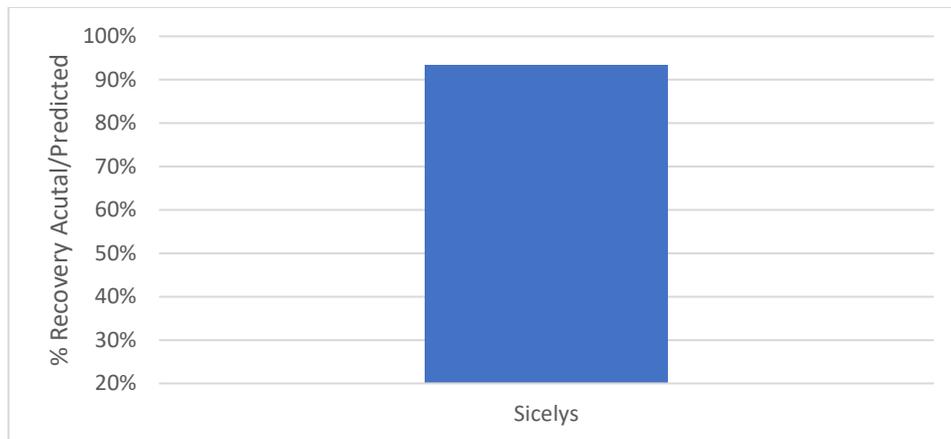


Figure 2 Yield reconciliation results summary for 2021

Social

Public Feedback

SFNZ strives to engage actively with stakeholders in the many communities where it operates, with particular focus on those directly or indirectly affected by its operations. Prior to commencing harvesting in a new area, SFNZ engages with representatives of the local community so that they are informed of plans and can be involved in developing mitigation strategies for identified concerns. Typically, the groups include forest neighbours, residents on any rural access roads affected by logging traffic, and tangata whenua. SFNZ maintains a stakeholder and public feedback register to monitor and manage issues.

2021 was a quiet year for feedback with no registered communications over this period. This is likely due to the harvesting operation coming to an end and where they were operating was surrounded by adjacent forests and or farm with no boundary issues.

The figure 3 shows most feedback are complaints and communications from the last 3 years.

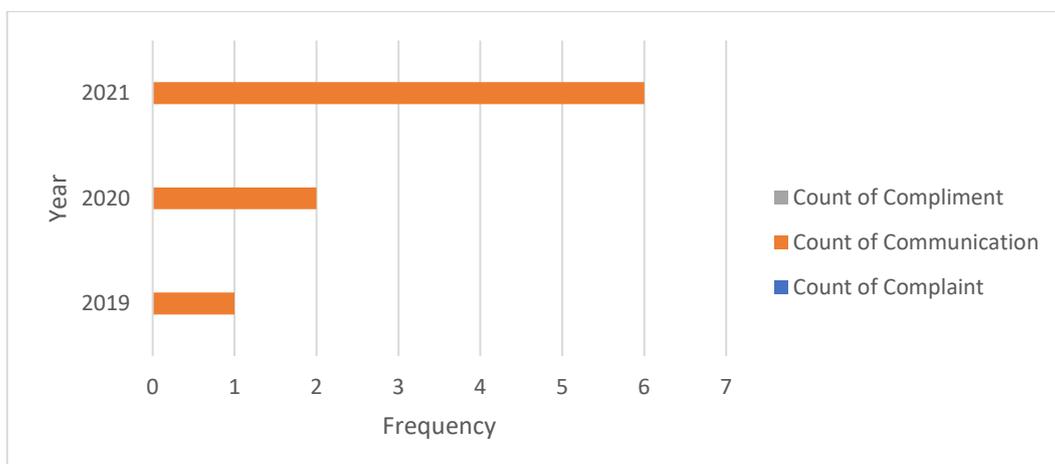


Figure 3 Record of communications, compliments and complaints from the public.

Recreational use

Access is allowed in forests where operational or other restrictions are not in place. Most of the access permits for the last 12 months have been for deer hunting.

Figure 4 shows a breakdown of the number of permits issues by type for the last 12 months.

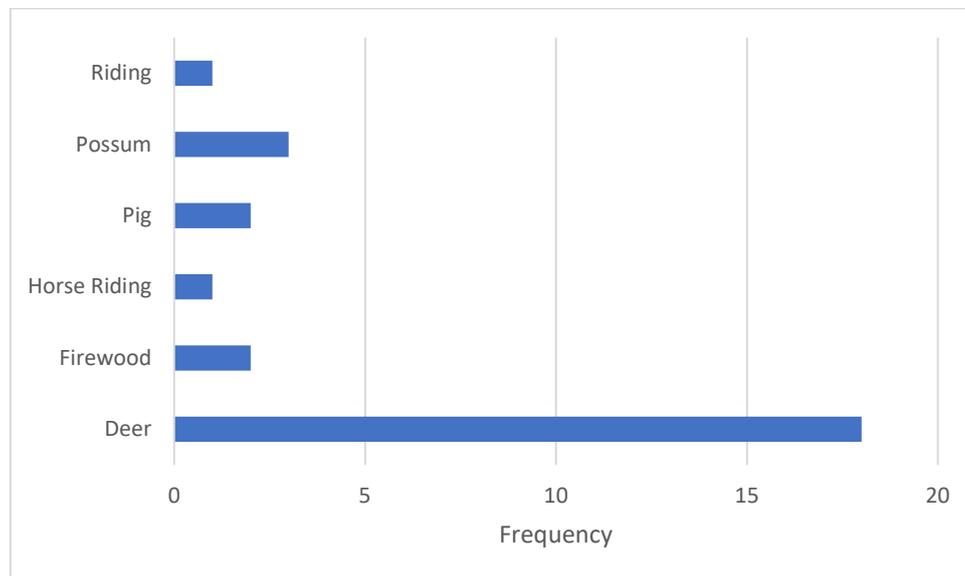


Figure 4 Summary of the recreational use of the Whanganui estate

Environmental

Improvements

There have been no environmental incidents reported over the past 12 months.

Stream Monitoring

SFNZ is committed to a programme of ensuring that the waterways in and flowing from forests under their stewardship are maintained in a state that has minimal effect on water quality. Water monitoring of significant streams (approximately over 1 meter) is undertaken annually – pre-harvest, during harvest and two years post-harvest.

Tributaries flowing from McNabs, and Sicelys Forests have been assessed as non-significant. This means they do not meet the minimum depth requirements for clarity testing.

Threatened Species Monitoring

SFNZ is committed to the conservation, preservation, and protection of threatened species in the forests it manages and support neighbours' efforts. The Operations Guide contains a table of rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) species that could be found in SFNZ forests and crews are trained in discovery protocol. SFNZ maintains a list of RTE sightings, these are mapped in LRM and reported on annually. SFNZ consulted with Department of Conservation, Fish and Game New Zealand, the previous landowners / managers, Whanganui District Council.

There is currently no recorded RTE species within SFNZ Whanganui Forest Estate.

Pest Control

FMNZ work in conjunction with the Horizons Regional Council (HRC) on their pest control strategies to improve biodiversity in the region. Table 2 shows a summary pest control results from the past 12 months.

Table 2: Pest control results 2021

Forest	Feral Cat	Possum	Feral Goat
Te Ara To Waka			
McNabs	1	26	
Sicelys		20	
Tauwhare		5	
Total	1	51	0

High Conservation Value

There are currently no HCV areas identified in the Whanganui Estate. The assessment of HCV areas in SFNZ estate is ongoing as more information and understanding come to light. The HCV list is reviewed five yearly in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Stakeholder feedback is crucial to this process.

Within SFNZ plantation forests there are pockets of indigenous vegetation mapped as significant non-plantation (SNP). These areas are identified on the Geographic Information System (GIS) and are protected by operational management.

Forestry

Operations Summary

In 2021 a total of 73.5 ha was replanted in Sicelys Forest. The remaining area in this forest will be re-established in 2022.

A total of 214.5 ha was thinned within the Whanganui estate, 169.5ha in Te Ara To Waka and 45ha in Tauwhare. The thinning programme is now back on track after delays in the previous 12 months. Thinning in Tauwhare is on-going and is expected to be completed prior to this year's planting season.

Chemical Use

SFNZ has undertaken Environmental, Social Risk Assessments (ESRA) on all chemical it uses in accordance with FSC Pesticides Policy (FSC-POL-30-001 V3-0). Chemical use is following a similar trend to previous years. Generally, the change in glyphosate use is a factor of the area to be re-established. Where possible the minimal amount of chemical is used but it is still required to be at a level to get satisfactory results.

Figure 5 shows a breakdown of chemical use of active ingredient for the last two years.

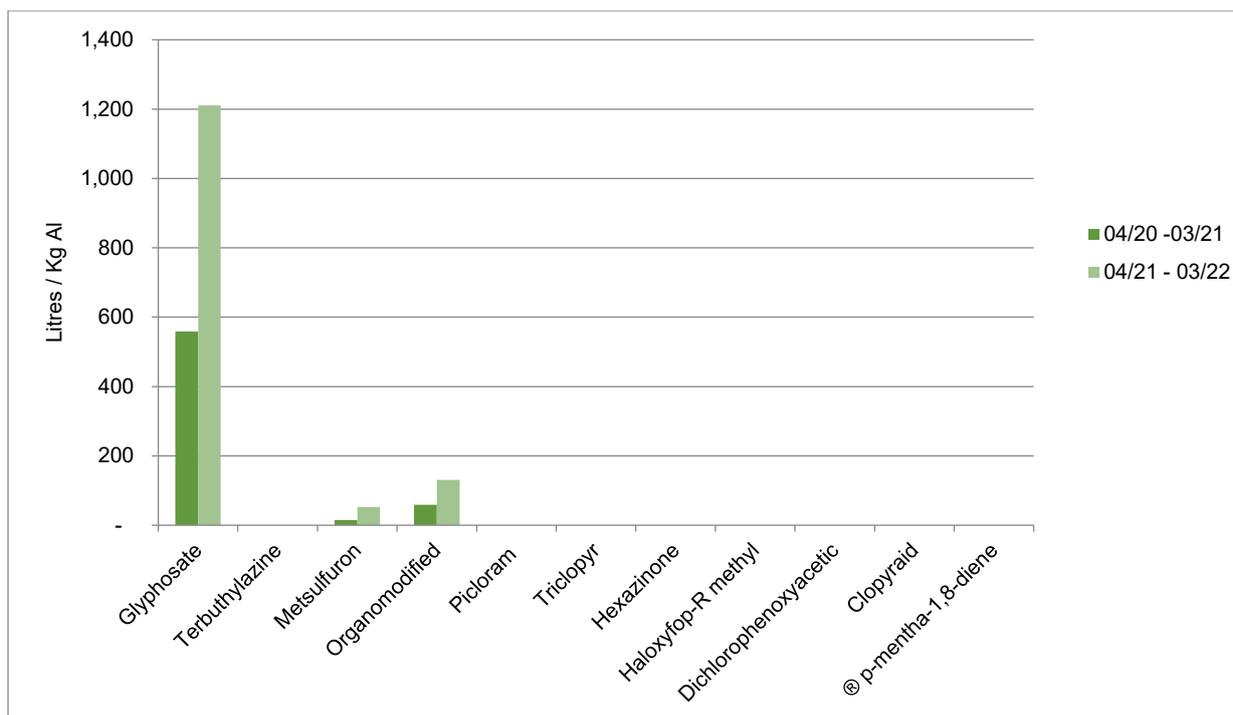


Figure 5 Chemical use by active ingredient 2021 and 2022

Harvesting

Health, Safety Wellbeing

In the past 12 months was about consistency with FMNZ completed required audits and monitoring operations to ensure they are completed in a safe manner. During this period there was only three incidents with varying levels of significant. In line with other Summit operations the new H&S framework was integrated into the Whanganui operations.

With harvesting finished and the thinning programme getting underway the focus was making sure the staff onsite were competent and trained for task. This has been a work in progress with limited workplace trainer/assessors available to provide training. FMNZ in conjunction with Villi Tree Services managed to secure a trainer and have worked through get the men onsite qualified.

NES-PF

There was only one NES-PF notified operation for harvesting and earthworks at Sicelys Forest. This has now been closed as the operation is complete

The last sign off visit was completed by the regional in March with no issue noted.

Resource consent

With harvesting operations now complete the resource consent for red zone areas has been surrendered.

Production

Production summaries for the last 12 months

Table 1 Tonnes Harvested.

Type	Total (tonne)
FSC	49,327
Non FSC	
Total	49,327

Table 2 Markets supplied.

Type	Domestic (tonne)	Export (tonne)	Total (tonne)
FSC	9,758	39,569	49,327
Non FSC			
Total	9,758	39,569	49,327

Table 3 Area harvested in the past 12 months.

Type	Area (hectares)
FSC	69.9
Non FSC	
Total	69.9