

2024 Work Programme



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Forest Growers Levy Trust Budget

	2022	2023	2024
	Actual	Actual	Budget
Income			
Commodity Levies	10,855,200	10,239,397	9,500,000
Interest Income	20,116	54,904	35,000
Total Income	10,875,316	10,294,301	9,535,000
Expenses			
Operational & Administration			
Administration Costs			248,000
Overhead Costs			352,000
Programme Delivery			1,194,000
	1,491,278	1,733,471	1,794,000
Business Compliance & Reporting	104,945	185,054	118,000
Levy Collection	248,825	241,586	254,000
Secretariat	95,000	95,000	95,000
	1,940,048	2,255,111	2,261,000
Levy Referendum	-	-	200,000
Work Programme			
Environment	209,734	332,620	228,000
Fire	20,000	14,677	24,000
Biosecurity	913,424	1,046,791	963,500
Health & Safety	687,461	767,174	728,000
Promotions	690,252	662,663	718,000
Research	5,424,441	5,391,443	4,748,000
Transport	168,989	122,708	154,000
SME	91,330	125,427	104,000
Training & Careers	499,796	460,596	301,500
	8,705,427	8,924,099	7,969,000
Total Expenses	10,645,475	11,179,210	10,430,000
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	229,841	(884,909)	(895,000)
Unallocated Funding Provision	-	-	100,000
Advocacy Provision	-	-	300,000
Net Surplus/(Deficit) after Provisions	229,841	(884,909)	(1,295,000)

Operational (\$372,000)

Integral and database maintenance (\$254,000)

Integral set up a stand-alone company "Levy Systems Limited" (LSL) to operate the Forest Growers Levy data and levy collection system. This separate company ensures individual company data is kept confidential and secure. LSL is responsible for collecting data on harvested wood products and invoicing the owner of these products. The levy is paid by forest owners directly into the Forest Grower Levy Trust bank account.

Funding for 2024 covers the operation of LSL and the funding of minor enhancements to the collection systems.

Integral Software Amortisation (\$0)

Covers amortisation of software used by LSL to upload data and invoice levy payers. The original software programme that commenced 1 January 2014 has been fully amortised. This expense remains here for when enhancements are required in the future.

Business Compliance and Reporting (\$118,000)

Covers the cost of the Levy Trust administration including bank fees, legal, Xero accounting subscription, audit fee, business advisory, board and secretariat travel, chair, compliance audits, AGM and other meetings and an associated communications programme.

This expenditure consists of:

Chairman's fee and other Board costs	40,000
Legal expenses, including legal support for the Work Programme	9,000
Audit fee, accounting, and tax advice	17,000
Communications	11,000
Other (bank fees, communications, insurance, website)	16,000
Compliance audit	<u>25,000</u>
	<u>\$118,000</u>

Secretariat Costs (\$95,000)

FOA provides a secretariat service to the Levy Trust Board. The Chief Executive of FOA currently serves as the Chief Executive for the FGLT, answerable to the Trust Board for that function, not to FOA. The secretariat has a responsibility for liaising between the Trust and the two associations (FOA and FFA) who are delivering the levy-funded work programme including tabling the annual work programme and regular reports, as well as oversight of the levy collection process, constitutional matters, financial arrangements and accounting, legal and tax compliance.

Programme Management Costs (\$1,794,000)

Administration Costs	\$248,000
Overhead Costs	\$352,000
Programme Delivery	\$1,194,000
	<hr/>
Total Programme Management Costs	\$1,794,000

Changes to Programme Management Costs: these are reviewed each year and adjusted to account for any new resources and/or circumstances to comprise 79% of total costs. The remaining 21% is attributable to either FOA or secretariat activities.

The management costs include the following:

FOA Staffing

Approximately 10 FTEs based in Wellington, Rotorua, Christchurch & Auckland are managing the Levy Trust approved programme of work in collaboration with the FOA/FFA membership committees, communicating with forest growers and the wider industry and coordinating efforts with the Farm Forestry Association. This includes the management of R&D activity.

Phones

Fixed and cellular, line charge and usage

Stationery and Printing

General

Depreciation and other

R & M premises and equipment

IT costs, meeting and storage SaaS costs and office maintenance

Occupancy

Includes portion of office rental, power, cleaning services, office consumables

Travel and meetings

Catering for committees, flights, accommodation, rental vehicles, workshops, stakeholders' meetings, expert/contractors travel when required, venue charges

International travel

Includes a provision for engagement with International Council of Forest and Paper Association and FAO Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest and with the Australian industry (AFPA)

Work Programme Costs (\$7,969,000)

Fire (\$24,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Forestry Fire Strategy – Development

\$7,000

Fire represents an ever-present risk for forest owners and managers due to the serious economic, social, and environmental consequences. The FOA/FFA Fire committee has recognised the need for and importance of having a strategy to guide the industries approach to fires risk management into the future, its work programme, and the industries role as a signatory to the Plantation Forestry Rural Fire Control Charter – June 2021. This need has become more acute with the changes that have occurred in recent years with the formation of FENZ. A review of the system will highlight areas of strength and weakness for the sector, including the role of the FOA/FFA Fire Committee, areas of focus for the work programme, fire risk management practices that may need improvement, and areas that require engagement and advocacy. An independent review will provide the sector with a blueprint on which to form a strategy and work programme.

Note: this resourcing is to support the Fire Committee to transform the outputs of the fire strategy workshop into a Fire strategy document for the sector (including consultant time, peer review and publication design).

Review and update Fire risk management Guidelines

\$6,000

It has been Five years since the Forest Fire Risk Management Guidelines were published and a lot has changed over that time. This project aims to review and update the guidelines to ensure they remain current and reflect best practice in forest fire risk management. This review was intended to be completed in 2023, however, due to several adverse weather events and availability constraints of key reviewers the review was delayed. Costs are largely publications and printing costs.

Wildfire Risk Management template and guidelines for smaller rural properties

\$5,000

This project will develop a non-regulatory template and guidelines to enable medium to small forest owners, farmers, lifestyle blocks, councils and those living in the rural/urban

interface to identify and manage the risk of wildfire to their assets. The guidelines will be based on updating the NRFA guidelines for small forest owners. The process is assisted by a group of subject matter experts and is a collaboration across FENZ, TUR, FOA, Fed Farmers and NZFFA. It aims to be ready for electronic distribution before Christmas 2023. This application is to enable hardcopy printing for distribution from 2024.

Note: The Fire Committee supported the work and indicated that it in addition to inking contributions SME group, it saw value in making a financial contribution toward publication of hardcopies but noted that that other beneficiaries should be approached for a contribution as well.

Tree Crop Insurance Advice

\$6,000

In 2023, the Fire Committee agreed to take on the Tree Crop Insurance portfolio, following a request from the FGLT Board. The Fire Committee indicated to do this effectively it would likely require support and guidance from insurance sector specialists to inform and advise the committee on what role it could play on behalf of the wider forestry sector in this space. This funding is to enable the Fire Committee to engage this expertise.

Note: The Fire committee noted that in order to deliver this new function it would require resourcing to enable support from relevant specialist expertise but that this should not be at the expense of its primary purpose (and resource). There is uncertainty as to what the resource requirements would be to enable the committee to progress this new responsibility. It has recommended that the balance of budget remaining be allocated for this purpose, but it expressed uncertainty as to what resource might be required at this early stage.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.

\$24,000

Forest Biosecurity (\$963,500)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Forest Biosecurity Surveillance (FBS) Programme

\$348,400

The annual risk-based biosecurity surveillance for pests and pathogens of plantation forest species. The field work, as a component of FBS programme, is undertaken for the forest industry by SPS Biota. The objectives of the FBS programme are to contribute to the protection the forest estate through early detection of new-to-New Zealand and new-to-region pest incursions (insects and pathogens), to protect trade from the potential negative impacts of any new incursions, and to enable market access and trade by providing an evidence base of pest or pathogen absence from New Zealand or specific regions or areas.

Costs for the FBS field surveillance and associated diagnostics activities are currently cost-shared 50/50 with MPI.

Note: the FBC has reduced the allocated funding to fit the available budget.

Risks:

- *This reduction has direct implications on the programmes ability to achieve its surveillance objectives of early detection and proof of pest/pathogen absence. The reduced funding will result in reduced surveillance effort which will reduce confidence in the likelihood of early detection. The industry will have to accept the increased risk this will create, namely that an incursion of a significant biosecurity threat remains undetected for longer which will in turn reduce the likelihood that an intervention/response will have an effective outcome (i.e., eradication or containment), and the cost implications of any delays in detection (including response costs and impact costs).*
- *As a GIA cost shared programme with Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ), the financial impact is effectively doubled as any reduction is matched by BNZ (FGLT reduction of \$48,945 equates to a programme budget reduction of \$97,890).*
- *Given govt budgeting and funding processes it is highly likely that any reduction in BNZ's contribution will likely be permanent as savings will be reallocated immediately.*

Forest Biosecurity Surveillance (FBS) – Diagnostics

\$253,000

The diagnostics work is undertaken for the forest industry by Scion. The objectives of the FBS programme are to contribute to the protection the forest estate through early detection of new-to-New Zealand and new-to-region pest incursions (insects and pathogens), to protect trade from the potential negative impacts of any new incursions,

and to enable market access and trade by providing an evidence base of pest or pathogen absence from New Zealand or specific regions or areas.

Costs for the FBS diagnostics are apportioned at approximate 1/3 each across the FBS, Non-Model Allocated Surveillance programme (NMA) and the Forest Health Assessments (FHA) activities with BNZ cost sharing 50% of the FBS component costs, the remainder are covered by the FGLT.

Note: the FBC reduced allocated funding to fit available budget.

Risks:

- *This reduction has direct implications on the programmes ability to achieve its surveillance objectives of early detection and proof of pest/pathogen absence. The reduced funding will result in a reduction in the number of samples that can be diagnosed which will reduce confidence in the likelihood of early detection. The industry will have to accept the increased risk this will create, namely that an incursion of a significant biosecurity threat remains undetected for longer which will in turn reduce the likelihood that an intervention/response will have an effective outcome (i.e., eradication or containment), and the cost implications of any delays in detection (including response costs and impact costs).*
- *This reduction will also require field surveillance staff actively reduce the number of suspect samples that they can submit to the diagnostic service, which will elevate the risk of a biosecurity issue being missed.*
- *As a GIA cost shared programme with Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ), the financial impact is higher than just the FGLT reduction. As one third of the project costs are matched by BNZ (FGLT reduction of \$35,543 equates to a programme budget reduction of \$47,390).*
- *Given govt budgeting and funding processes it is highly likely that any reduction in BNZ's contribution will likely be permanent as savings will be reallocated immediately.*

FBS Programme (NON-MODEL)

\$180,100

The "non-model allocation surveillance" (NMA) is the component of the wider forest biosecurity surveillance system but is independent from the FBS programme. It is not currently cost-shared with BNZ under GIA. The NMA surveillance is largely peri-urban and in-forest high risk site surveillance. The NMA expands the Forest Biosecurity Surveillance (FBS) programme to include high risk forest areas and risk pathways based on a risk profiling approach developed by SPS Biosecurity. This involves a risk-based approach to identify where to focus surveillance effort within forests surrounding high risk areas. The system targets sites with high visitor numbers, high industrial activity, or proximity to major transport routes. The NMA addresses some of the acknowledged shortcomings in the current FBS risk model and enhances the forest biosecurity surveillance system by increasing the chances that new pests and pathogens will be detected early enough for eradication or containment to still be an option. The programme is also looking at alternative approaches to improve early detection, including trapping, remote sensing etc and provides a platform for piloting, de-risking, operationalising and implementing new surveillance approaches.

Note: the FBC has reduced the allocated funding to fit the available budget.

Risks:

This reduction has direct implications on the programmes ability to achieve its surveillance objectives of early detection and proof of pest/pathogen absence. The reduced funding will result in reduced surveillance effort which will reduce confidence in the likelihood of early detection. The industry will have to accept the increased risk this will create, namely that an incursion of a significant biosecurity threat remains undetected for longer which will in turn reduce the likelihood that an intervention/response will have an effective outcome (i.e., eradication or containment), and the cost implications of any delays in detection (including response costs and impact costs).

Forest Biosecurity Consultant (BILL)

\$20,000

Funding for regular monthly time allocation for the forest growing sector to provide forest biosecurity technical support and advice, including the Forest Biosecurity Surveillance Programme, a cost-shared national programme with the Ministry for Primary Industries. Time is allocated for work on biosecurity matters for FBC, GIA, liaison with Scion and SPS Biota and other biosecurity system participants on the diagnostics and surveillance programme including reporting, governance, technical working groups, biosecurity research, and other tasks as required.

GIA Secretariat Cost Share

\$45,000

The GIA Secretariat is now funded by all GIA signatories, including MPI and industry. This funding is for the core services only and is in the form of a minimum club share that all signatories pay with remaining cost shared across all signatories proportionally by industry value. Any user pays services (i.e., supporting or administering industry specific initiatives or operational agreements) will need to be paid for separately.

Plant Pass OA Commitment

\$18,000

Plant Pass is a certification framework to help plant producers/nurseries identify, control, manage and avoid biosecurity risk. It aims to support a professional approach to biosecurity across the plant production industry, which aims to minimise biosecurity risk within practical operational constraints, build industry and producer resilience, trust and social license, and aims to harness the critical skills and observations that exist in the industry to protect and grow producers, their customers and ultimately New Zealand. Since 2018 the forest growing industry has worked alongside government and other primary industry sectors to develop Plant Pass to enable improvements in biosecurity risk reduction along the nursery pathway. *Fusarium circinatum*, the cause of pine pitch canker, is an example of a significant threat to the exotic forest growing industry in New Zealand that this scheme aims to minimise. The nursery pathway is a key mechanism of spread for this pathogen should it arrive here. Currently there are no pathway risk management programmes in place that would reduce this risk, both within, and external to, the forest growing sector other than seed import restrictions at the border. Plant Pass has been implemented as a five-year multisector Operational Agreement under GIA to which the

forest growing industry is a signatory alongside other industries and MPI and as such will contribute a forest industry cost share.

Lepidoptera Readiness and Response Contingency Planning

\$21,500

In 2021, several Government Industry Agreement (GIA) partners agreed to collaborate on progressing improvements to the state of general biosecurity response readiness for Lepidoptera incursions. The initial focus was on understanding the baseline state of readiness to inform a readiness workplan to be delivered under a multisector Operational Agreement under the GIA Deed. The FOA on behalf of the forest growing sector signed the OA in March 2023. This funding represents the forest growing sectors cost share/commitment toward the Lepidoptera OA work programme budget of \$100k that aims to progress NZ's state of Lepidoptera readiness.

Forest Biosecurity Awareness and Communications programme

\$23,000

This project comprises a range communication, sector engagement and awareness raising initiatives aimed at promoting and supporting good biosecurity practices and understanding of the risks to the planted forest estate. It includes:

- maintaining Pine Net
- Forest Biosecurity News
- The Forest Biosecurity Conference
- Biosecurity fact sheet biosecurity guide development and distribution
- Biosecurity training
- Find-A-Pest pest reporting app support.
- Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital sponsorship

It also encompasses other awareness raising and engagement activities that might arise that add value and benefit to the biosecurity outcomes sought by the forest growing sector.

Biosecurity Guidelines (Hygiene and basic biosecurity)

\$10,000

Good hygiene practices in forests play an important role in reducing the spread of pests and diseases, and this supports strong biosecurity. However, it is difficult to implement and enforce strict cleaning practices due to the nature of forestry work, sites being by nature covered with dirt and complex equipment which is difficult to clean. Forestry hygiene protocols would need to be optional and flexible (unless managing 'unwanted' or highly significant organisms) and available to assist forestry workers where they have opportunity to improve, without making rigid processes that hinder work. SPS Biota will use both in-house expertise and consultation with subject matter experts to create a guide for forest workers on good hygiene practices. The hygiene protocols will be targeted to meet specific 'points of intervention' in the forestry industry, covering both container and bare-rooted nurseries as well as forest operations in plantations.

Deep learning for host tree species mapping in urban areas

\$20,000

This project will evaluate the use of deep learning and high-resolution aerial imagery as a tool to map host tree species in urban areas. The project will combine species data from MPI/FOA or other sources to develop a deep learning model capable of identify host trees at the species or genus level that are of interest for biosecurity purposes. We will then

attempt to detect the identified species/genus groups in one urban area using publicly available RGB imagery.

Note: *this is an exploratory project that represents a funding contribution to expand a PHD project to look at remote sensing opportunities to rapidly identify selected host species (i.e., important plantation forestry species) in urban environments. If successful, this could significantly improve our state of readiness to respond to biosecurity incursion in urban environments by rapidly focusing effort on relevant host species. It will also potentially enable refinement of surveillance effort by targeting surveillance effort to identified host trees to improve surveillance sensitivity and efficiency.*

Travel and accommodation

\$2,000

Costs for Committee members to attend meetings. Subject to approval by Committee Chair.

Pre-emptive Biosecurity and Research and Development Fact Finding Study

\$22,500

The pre-emptive biosecurity and research and development fact finding study aims to fund travel for up to four industry biosecurity and research and development representatives but form the basis for a wider industry delegation to visit several European countries where biosecurity threats are significantly impacting on plantation forestry species of interest to New Zealand. The proposed locations include the Basque country Spain, Portugal and the UK. Spain offers a unique opportunity in that it is dealing with several biosecurity threats of significant concern to (but not present in) New Zealand. FGR is currently funding the ongoing Pre-emptive Biosecurity project, which aims to identify and quantify the risk associated with New Zealand radiata pine germplasm exposed to foreign pathogens and insects (including Pine pitch canker - *Fusarium circinatum*, brown spot needle blight – *Lecanosticta acicola*), the pine processionary moth *Thaumetopoea pityocampa* and *Dothistroma septosporum*. Portugal is also dealing with a range of forest pests and pathogens of concern to NZ including the pine wilt nematode and a large number of bark beetles. The UK is also dealing with a range of forest pest and pathogens and Forest Research UK has an extensive programme of research aimed at better understanding the risks posed by a number of biosecurity threats. Each location offers unique opportunities to build on our knowledge and understanding of biosecurity risks and broaden our relationships and collaborations to progress our knowledge and understand of forest health and biosecurity.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.

\$963,500

Environment (\$228,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Environmental Consultant

\$12,300

The Environment Committee calls on the services of an expert RMA environmental consultant for advice as needed on issues that affect the sector. Time is billed includes attending Committee meetings, advice on RMA and planning matters, and updates to national policies in light of a number of regulatory changes.

Statutory change and subsequent implementation

\$38,000

With the change in government there is some uncertainty with regards to the policy changes earmarked for 2024. What is clear is that the Natural and Built Environment Act will be thrown out. Other regulations and policies may also be in question such as the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity, aspects of Essential Freshwater and design of biodiversity credit system. The government has promised stability of the ETS, we anticipate the status quo will largely remain. Following Cyclone Gabrielle and the subsequent ministerial inquiry, it is anticipated that work on climate change adaptation and resilience, such as Electricity Regulations, will still be a priority.

The Environment Committee will need to be resourced to respond to new regulations and policies as they are developed and consulted on. The funding set aside in the statutory change project will resource the committee to do this. It is difficult to anticipate how much funding will be required and funding for this project is somewhat of a contingency with the amount estimated based on the amounts accessed in recent years.

In addition to consultation and submissions it is important that the committee is resourced to engage with government departments on guidance material, workshops and general implementation of the new policies and regulations that are gazetted.

FSC Cluster Group and Standards Development Group Support

\$1,000

Funding supports the costs associated with the wider FSC cluster group meeting. Issues are discussed as they arise, most recently this has included support for the application of the new standard.

Land Use Study – Pakuratahi Paired Catchment

\$80,000

Over the period 1993-2005 Hawkes Bay Regional Council with assistance from a number of parties undertook a paired catchment study, monitoring and comparing various water quality attributes in two similar adjacent catchments, one in forestry and the other in farmland. The study period included first rotation harvest of forest in the Pakuratahi catchment. The Hawkes Bay Forestry Group is currently in discussion with Hawkes Bay Regional Council to reactivate part of that study to monitor the period up to and including

second rotation harvest to get a more complete record, particularly in relation to sediment losses. It is proposed that the study is repeated making use of emerging monitoring technologies.

The Environment Committee is strongly supportive of the project, the data from the original study is still relied on heavily by industry for consent applications, submissions, etc. It should be noted that a commitment to undertaking this project will need to occur over successive years to be of value.

Forest Practice Guides/Environmental Code of Practice

\$60,000

In 2023 work combining and updating the FPGs with the older but more comprehensive Environmental Code of Practice (ECOP) commenced. The Committee has engaged a consultant to kick start the work but will need further funding in 2024 to complete the project. The committee recognises the significance of progressing this work subsequent to the ministerial inquiry, a robust, detailed good practice guide is now more important than ever.

Wilding conifers advocacy and subscription

\$3,000

Funding support is requested to liaise with the Wilding Conifers Control Program (WCCP). FOA has representatives on the various branches under the WCCP umbrella: the Technical Advisory Group, Governance Group, the advocacy network (the Wilding Pine Network) and Strategy Group. As members of these groups FOA has input into advocacy campaigns, research strategy, policy development and media releases.

An annual subscription fee of \$3,000 is required for membership of the WPN.

Environment Committee members attend the annual conference to promote the work being undertaken by industry on wilding control, funds will be used to support attendance at the conference.

A strong anti-forestry rhetoric is being pushed by many of the community groups working on wilding control, it is important that the Environment Committee is resourced to respond to and bring balance to these online communities.

Pest Profile in Plantation Forests

\$33,500

In 2022 the Environment Committee held a biodiversity strategy workshop, it was hypothesised that rat and by association stoat numbers were lower in plantation forests but recognised that there wasn't scientific evidence to support this. The proposal seeks to study predatory pests in two plantation forest locations. In addition to filling a critical knowledge gap, the proposal will provide opportunities for research students.

University of Canterbury have allocated \$100,000 towards the project.. It is hoped that a collaborative project group can fill a critical knowledge gap for the sector but also New Zealand. It is anticipated the project will contribute significantly to social license.

Website Hosting

\$200

Website hosting for the Rare Species and Forest Practice Guides.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.

\$228,000

Health and Safety (\$728,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Forest Industry Safety Council (FISC)

\$728,000

Committed liability for 2023 including an admin resource and accounting support for FISC Trust. FISC has operated successfully to date and has commitment from WorkSafe for project funding up to June 2023. This includes funding for a full-time project manager. FISC requires core funding for 2023 to continue the programme of work.

(Note that WorkSafe NZ will be contributing in addition to the budget recorded here. The work programme for FISC is a work-in-progress but key budget lines will include:

FISC operating costs (National Safety Director, administrative support costs and office overheads)	\$327,000
Stakeholder engagement via regular newsletters, regional workshops, attendance at industry events and an annual Safetree conference	\$67,000
Costs associated with the operation of the Council and their governance of the agreed work programme and projects	\$58,000
Safetree Certification (Bravegen licensing, Governance panel and certification costs)	\$215,000
IRIS (Injury Recording Incident System) enhancement to align the database with the new legislation and expand its coverage within the sector beyond FOA members	\$56,000
Operational Action Group	\$5,000
Total	\$728,000

FISC Individual and Contractor Company Certification Scheme

Embed certification in industry

The Independent Forest Safety Review (IFSR) made key recommendations that the forest industry, led by FISC, implement the following:

- a contractor company certification scheme
- individual competency standards for high-risk tasks; tree felling and breaking out

Schemes have been developed, Safetree Contractor Certification and Safetree Worker Certification, along with governance of both schemes.

In developing these certification schemes a key focus has been to educate the wider sector in the following areas: leadership, risk management, worker engagement and current competency for high-risk tasks.

In developing Safetree Contractor Certification, the following matters have been taken into consideration:

- There is sufficient industry support for the schemes to become self-sustaining; development work has been supported strongly by FICA and FOA have also taken a keen interest. Uptake is initially aimed at FICA members (Year 1 - 50% and Year 2 - 75%) although the scheme will be open to non-FICA members.
- Maintain costs at an accessible level to ensure smaller companies will be able to participate; currently costs for individual companies to join the certification scheme are estimated to be in the region of \$1,500 - \$2,500.

It is recognised that support for the scheme will rely largely on forest owners and other supply chain participants acknowledgement and acceptance of the certifications.

The FISC Council continues the “roll-out” and embedding of these schemes with industry participants nationwide which will require additional infrastructure requirements. In order to accomplish this FISC requires funding for

Certification:

- Training sufficient assessors for Safetree Worker Certification and conducting peer review workshops*
- Training sufficient auditors for Safetree Contractor Certification and conducting peer review workshops *
- Regional workshops
- System administration costs

** Peer review workshops are vital to ensure consistency of approach and to discuss learnings, good practice and any system modification that may be required*

Governance

- Maintenance of governance processes via the established FISC Council

Plan for delivery - This project will be managed by FISC and will require additional administrative support to be fully effective.

Promotion (\$718,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Social licence campaign

\$250,000

It is proposed the campaign be delivered under the 'ownership' of Forest Growers New Zealand and use the paused 'Love our Forests' look and feel promotion.

Four primary target audiences would constitute;

1. The public at large - necessary to maintain social license generally
2. Older than 55 years – identified as where social license loss has occurred, according to Key Research, and are 42% of voters. They prefer their information through television commercials and Facebook
3. Hill country farmers and communities. Some hill country farming organisations are our main social license critics with a zero-sum approach to plantation forestry. It would be timely to reinvigorate the 'Love our Forests' efforts to promote forestry to hill country farmers who would be the sector most likely to try to prevent National implementing its pro forestry manifesto
4. Hawke's Bay - through the promotional cooperation pilot with the HB Forestry Group.

Platforms are to constitute a balance of print, on-line and television advertising.

Social media campaign

\$70,000

Investment into social media for 2024 will dovetail with the wider campaign activities, acting as an extended social licence vehicle to tell the sector's story.

FOA and FGLT don't currently have social channels set up, therefore a proportion of this budget will be dedicated to rationalising the most effective channels for achieving our social licence and communications goals and establishing channels and content – either in-house or through the support of an external agency.

Annual public opinion survey

\$30,000

FGLT has funded such a survey in four of the past five years. The survey provides a robust and valuable measurement of our social license over time. FGLT has engaged Key Research on four occasions since 2019.

The 2021 and 2023 survey included questions on wood and its use in order to assess the WOLCF campaign and also tested the attitudes towards forestry in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle.

The 2024 survey will be critical in continuing to assess the public's sentiment and shifts in attitude towards our sector and wider primary industries.

For the Statement of Service Performance such as yearly survey is essential.

Website development \$55,000

There are approximately 24 industry-group websites spanning a range of topics such as training and careers, health and safety, social licence campaigns and more.

While recognising that many of these industry groups have similar mandates and the need for an online, representative presence; there remains a large amount of content duplication across all 24 sites and none serve to educate and inform the public at large about New Zealand’s forestry sector.

The FOA website and FGLT website also duplicate communications efforts and are due for an update. This presents an opportunity to merge the FOA and FGLT websites and develop a unified industry voice that appeals to the public at large under a new brand name of ‘Forest Growers New Zealand’.

Mystery Creek Fieldays Forestry hub \$100,000

Advanced approval for a \$100,000 allocation to the June 2024 National Fieldays at Mystery Creek has been given, following a commitment from Te Uru Rakau to continue the partnership on equal contribution terms. Planning from 2024 is well advanced to have a more active site than the two previous Forest Hubs, with sponsored events and ‘show and tell’ activities.

Agency support \$70,000

Agency support and specialist advice for the 2024 Promotions work programme. Includes website support, social media content curation and deployment, campaign messaging, campaign placement, media outreach support and more.

HBFG – Promotions cooperation \$20,000

Following a strategic review, the HBFG is seeking to align with the social licence campaign conducted nationally in the work programme. As such it is the only external application for the Promotions budget which does so. Success of this approach would provide a template for other regions to work with FOA comms in a similar manner. Positive media generated at the local level can more likely be used at the national level. Promotion of the Forest Investment Framework work by Scion for forest companies in the Hawke’s Bay region and collaboration with the Hawke’s Bay Regional Council are other important factors.

NZFFA – Communicating with small scale forest owners \$75,000

The NZFFA will communicate with small scale forest owners on levy and related matters by publicizing relevant issues through the Tree Grower magazine, the NZFFA website, the NZFFA Facebook page, the forest owners’ postal address database and national email newsletters.

Facts and Figures Publication \$15,000

This comprehensive accumulation of data is relied on as authoritative by industry, government and others interested in forestry. A production question remains for Facts

and Figures as to whether Facts and Figures should be printed, or only an on-line version is produced.

NZFFA – Working in partnership with Te Uru Rakau

\$13,000

Following the success of a series of forestry extension workshops funded by Te Uru Rakau – NZ Forest Service and run by the NZFFA for sheep and beef farmers earlier this year, we are discussing further work with Te Uru Rakau to deliver specific projects that will help it meet its objectives in forestry promotion, education and extension. While these new projects are currently only in outline, they will be covered by an annual work programme that falls under a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the parties. This application is for co-funding to assist with the annual programme through 2024.

Sponsorships

\$10,000

Sponsorship Funding available to support events, either regularly or one-off events, which enhance industry messaging and networking and provide speaking platforms. The 2024 budget will include production of video profiles for the Blue Sky Young Scientist applications for the international ICFPA Award.

External memberships

\$10,000

Membership of other organisations, such as Business NZ, ICFPA, Guild of Ag Journalists and Communicators.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.

\$718,000

Research Science & Technology (\$4,748,000)

More than half of existing projects set out below, represent continuations of long term, co-funded research and have obtained consistent funding from the Trust since their establishment. These programmes include 21st Century Tissue Culture, Tree Root Microbiome, Automation and Robotics and Precision Silviculture Programme. These continue to receive strong industry support and are considered highly relevant to achieving the Forest Growers Science and Innovation Plan. A recently completed programme, Specialty Wood Products, ran for six years from July 2017 to June 2023.

The proposed allocation of levy funds to the Research, Science and Technology portfolio in 2024 is \$4,768,000, which is 12% (\$648,000) lower than the 2023 calendar year. The allocation of these funds across the research portfolio first considered the long-term programmes already committed to (above) along with regular activities such as delivering the annual conference and hosting the forecaster calculator. These account for \$3,180,000 of the funding allocation, with \$1,590,000 remaining for allocation to 'new' proposals in 2024.

There were more than 55 Expressions of interest (EOI) received in August 2023. These came from Scion, Plant and Food, Universities, NZFFA, individuals, businesses, and many were collaborations. The majority were for 1-year time periods but several extended across multiple years or are planning to apply for other funding to support multi-year projects. The largest themes by number of proposals are Diversification (20) and Technology (16), followed by Forest Health (9) and Environmental (5). Several of these multi-year projects involved PhD's. The total request for funding in was more than \$5.6 million.

A shortlist of 22 EOI were selected and discussed with the Forest Research Committee and provisional recommendations on funding allocations in 2024 are provided below. Eleven EOI were for ongoing research that had been funded in 2023, including seven projects from Scion. The evaluation process involves the strategic assessment framework and associated tool, developed in 2020. This involves a weighted assessment to measure each project's ability to contribute to a key set of drivers.

Moderating factors are also considered: (a) recommendations from other FGLT committees, (b) co-funding required or confirmed, (c) implications to prior investment if not funded, (d) consideration of the relationship of proposals to other activities that may be occurring elsewhere, (e) whether proposals could be modified or improved to deliver greater value?, (f) were there alternative ways of supporting the proposal?, (g) how would investment affect the portfolio balance?, (h) area of contribution within strategy? (i) the funding risk/proportion of total funding requested.

Seven of the shortlisted proposals related to forestry diversification, wood properties and processing (with a total request of \$314,500). Projects such as these were supported in 2023 through co-funding from the Industry Transformation Plan (ITP). However, in 2024, this source of co-funding is not expected to be available and so funding for these proposals is uncertain. The exception is development of a new Diversified Forestry programme (consultation, priority setting and business case development). The levy request is \$100,000 to match the SFFF co-funding (\$100,000) that has been received to support this work.

In summary, there are four major initiatives in 2024:

1. Continuation of the long- and medium-term programmes (\$3,180,000)
2. Continued support for the Resilient Forests Programme (\$1,000,000)
3. Support for proposals that cover forest health and build biosecurity readiness and capability (\$544,000). Research Area 3 of the Resilient Forests Programme (Forest Health) includes an additional \$400,000 on these themes.
4. Consultation, business case development for Diversified Forestry Programme (\$100,000).

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Ongoing projects

Automation and Robotics in Harvesting and Logistics

\$735,000

A Primary Growth Partnership (PGP) between industry and MPI with a focus on automation and robotics post tree felling to improve the safety and efficiency of operations in the log supply chain, reduce repetitive manual tasks and make harvesting and logistics jobs a more attractive option for a new generation of workers. Projects include hauler automation, log tagging, residue management and automated log sorting and transport. The Partnership commenced on 1 January 2019 and will enter its fourth year of seven years with industry contributing 60% and MPI 40%.

21st Century Tissue Culture Partnership (TCP)

\$600,000

A six-year partnership with MBIE that commenced on 1 July 2019 and is focused on improving the efficiency of tissue culture plant production through automated bioreactor and propagation systems. Building on the significant past investment in breeding and genomics this programme aims to considerably shorten the time required to deploy the best genetics from breeding programmes to the forest. It will also broaden the selection of improved genotypes that can be propagated efficiently and is a prerequisite for gene editing and other genetic technologies.

Tree Microbiome

\$300,000

A five-year MBIE funded endeavour programme that aims to take scientific learnings from the human microbiome and use them to guide research on the root microbiome of radiata pine with the goal of understanding how the root microbiome can alter a tree's response to changing environmental conditions.

Precision Silviculture Programme

\$1,400,000

This 7-year programme seeks to implement practice change across the key forest management processes within the nursery, planting, pruning and thinning. Intended innovation will include mechanisation and precision/automation advancements to make the recovery of thinned biomass more financially viable and removing labour constraints impacting the viability of pruning. The programme will look to leverage off existing innovation in areas such as remote sensing, terrestrial robotics, and geospatial location. It aims to create benefit for all forest owners and explores improvement to manual processes using power-assisted tools and battery-operated devices, as well as novel engineering for use in planting, pruning, and thinning. This programme has a strong health and safety component and looks to create new career pathways for the forestry workforce.

Rural Fire Research

\$65,000

The Rural Fire Research programme is extending current research testing the new convective fire spread theory developed by the US Forest Service to extreme fire behaviour through burn experiments in standing conifers (wilding crown fires) and heavy slash fuels (fire whirls and mass fire behaviour). It will also model wildfire spread in the rural-urban interface where houses are fuels, by linking computer models for suburban wildfire spread and atmospheric turbulence with data on ignition properties of buildings and vegetation fuels. Research will also be conducted into the flammability of indigenous forests, better preparing rural-urban interface communities through improved wildfire risk planning and use of guided innovation practices for developing new firefighting tools, technologies and decision-support systems. The programme of work built into the new proposed MBIE Research Programme bid, "Extreme wildfire: Our new reality - are we ready?" was developed in partnership with the New Zealand Forest Owners Association, Forest Growers Research, Te Uru Rākau and other members of the Rural Fire Research Advisory Committee.

Pre-emptive biosecurity– a unique and immediate opportunity

\$70,600

Testing the performance of New Zealand radiata pine germplasm in a foreign environment exposed to pathogens and insects currently not present in New Zealand. The research will provide a perspective of the risk of potentially invasive pests and pathogens and new knowledge to enhance the resilience of NZ radiata pine plantations.

New Zealand radiata pine in Spain will be exposed to several potentially invasive pests and pathogens to achieve these aims. The pathogens include, among others, *Fusarium circinatum* (pine pitch canker), *Dothistroma pini*, *D. septosporum* variants (*Dothistroma* needle blight), and *Lecanosticta acicula* (brown spot needle blight). In addition, these trees shall be exposed to potentially invasive insects *Thaumetopoea pityocampa* (pine processionary moth) and *Lymantria dispar dispar* (European gypsy moth). This project involves monitoring plants in the laboratory, greenhouse, nursery, and forest stands for the specific purpose of assessing the selection pressures.

Hosting and Supporting On-line Radiator Calculator

\$35,000

Hosting the Radiata On Line Forecaster Calculator that is used by small growers and consultants to develop yield estimates and to evaluate alternative silvicultural regimes.

Forest Growers Conference and Workshops

\$40,000

Support for workshops and conferences where the full cost cannot be recovered through user pays.

Forest Operations and Disease Control

\$77,500

The aims of the project are to undertake a detailed study to quantify the movement of pathogens on logging trucks and forestry equipment during operational activities and Investigate patterns in logging truck movements to provide information on potential pathogen movements. This will aid decision making if biosecurity zones are to be set up in response to a biosecurity threat or emerging disease. The proposed programme will also assess the threat of other human pathways, such as the movement of machinery, other

vehicles, equipment, gear, and personnel apparel. This programme will target an SFFF application.

Biotech-based durable resistance to fungal forest pathogens

\$100,000

This project is developing biotech-based solutions to provide robust, low environmental impact, chemical-free strategies to meet existing and future (not yet arrived) fungal and oomycete pathogen challenges for New Zealand’s plantation forestry. The research will identify and inactivate tree disease susceptibility genes (a diverse group of genes with varying roles that when present/functional render plants more susceptible to invading pathogens). The use of gene editing will allow precise and rapid gene inactivation and allow trees to be produced without transgenes (added DNA) which will facilitate outdoor testing and deployment.

Resilient Forests

\$1,000,000

Based on three years of prior research and the legacy of the GCFE and HTHF research programmes this proposal sets the scene for a multi-year programme to address critical issues outlined in the industry road map and R&D strategy. There are three research aims within the integrated Resilient Forests programme:

RA1 aims to apply innovative and integrated approaches to increase the capability of forest owners/forestry sector to manage future risks and uncertainties contributing to the resilience of forest plantations in New Zealand. This includes application of a portfolio diversification approach to mitigate risks and provide investment options; development of tools and frameworks for anticipating climate threats while reflecting risks perceptions of forest growers and the public (i.e., Social Licence to Operate, SLO); and future proofing forests through adaptive management.

RA2 seeks to enhance productivity and wood quality of New Zealand’s radiata pine forests using a whole-systems approach. We will leverage prior research to investigate the influence of genetics, environment, and silviculture (GxExS) on productivity and wood quality and develop tools to assist forest managers.

RA3 aims to enhance the resilience of radiata pine forestry to biotic risks, ensuring increased forest productivity and profitability in an uncertain future. We will further knowledge of key pine needle diseases, allowing quantification and mitigation of risk under climate change, while developing new sustainable and socially acceptable disease management tools that support continued investor confidence and social licence to operate. Research will focus on the development of tools for the surveillance and monitoring of disease, disease forecasting, integration of disease into growth models, optimised silvicultural practices and precision disease control.

Biosecurity Risk Evaluation Framework (Phase 2)

\$144,900

To evaluate the potential NZ distributions and economic impacts of insects associated with *Pinus radiata* that are considered most likely to establish in NZ. These insects were identified in a FGR funded 2023 Forest Biosecurity Risk Evaluation Framework: phase 1 project. The second phase of the project specifically assesses the potential distributions, spread rates and potential impacts of these species in NZ.

Sustainable approaches to control soilborne nursery pathogens in New Zealand \$100,000

The aim is to develop sustainable, non-chemical field treatment/protection tools for long-term management of nursery-linked soilborne pathogens. This will support the production of disease-free seedlings for commercial nursery plantings. We will use pot trials to explore the efficacy of soil treatment methods on survival of nursery soil pathogens.

Diversifying Forestry for a Resilient Future \$80,000

This proposal aims to build on the successful outcomes of the FGR Specialty Wood Products Research Partnership (SWP). The SWP is an industry wide collaborative R&D partnership committed to a rigorous work programme to enable regional establishment of diverse forests that will support transformational change of NZ's emerging circular bioeconomy and improve resilience for future generations.

We will develop a strategically focused 'all of supply chain' R&D programme to de-risk emerging species that produce naturally durable/high stiffness wood and other products. Our species include eucalypts, cypresses, redwood and a mix of other species of strategic interest. Our R&D programme in breeding, growing, utilisation and markets will advance the successful establishment of diverse forests to provide for a significant increase in the sustainable production of high value wood products.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation \$4,748,000

Small & Medium Enterprise (\$104,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Promoting Treefarmer

\$20,000

Treefarmer is a useful online geospatial web tool developed by FGLT over the last four years with the aim of improving the afforestation and harvesting experience of small-scale forest growers. It achieves this by raising awareness of the issues, costs, risks, and opportunities tree growers will encounter with tree planting and harvesting on their land. It has been expanded and refined by adding more species including indigenous options. Google analytics shows usage at a modest 30 users per month. Usage needs to increase substantially to reach the intended audience of 12,000 small scale growers.

Promotion initiatives will include print publicity, updating online tutorial and user manual resources, along with live demonstrations/training at the National Fielddays and Farm Forestry Extension workshops. It would also be demonstrated to Land Advisor professionals.

Abies Grandis Nursery Improvements

\$25,000

Abies Grandis is a contingency species that may be a replacement option for Pinus Radiata if it was struck with severe disease as has occurred in other parts of the world. Abies Grandis may be as productive as Pinus Radiata, but has not been grown much in New Zealand. One problem that nurseries have found is the slowness of growth once seedlings are moved to their nursery pots which makes getting sellable seedlings within 2 years difficult. With this project, seed will be provided to Appleton's Nursery in Wakefield and their Oregon trained manager will conduct further propagation trials aimed at improving survival and speeding up the process to get commercial numbers of seedlings at a reasonable price.

Stringybark Trials Evaluation

\$25,000

Stringybark Eucalyptus trials were initially established in 2004/05 around the country. Survival data was collected at age 3 and subsequent growth rate measurements were collected at age 9. The current project will capture the data from surviving trials at ages 19/20 for further analysis. It will provide more accurate species growth performance on a range of sites and climates as many species accelerate growth as they enter their adult growth phase (10+ years). Stringybark eucalypts produce naturally durable easily sawn and dried timber.

Informing the Redesign of Forest Systems

\$32,000

There is growing concern in the forest sector that current forest systems are failing in increasingly common extreme climate events. This project would determine where the

gaps in science and practical knowledge are in the areas of wind firmness, rainfall interception, soil erosion mitigation, resistance to pests and disease, and fire risk. A facilitated workshop will be organised using a diverse group of experts from CRIs, Regional Councils and Government departments. It could well result in a new research strategy and gathering better evidence for "right tree right place" decisions. Collaboration and co-funding is expected from: Forest Industry, TUR/NZFS (particularly the ITP), Other FGLT Committees, Scion, Landcare, GNS, EPA, and Regional Councils.

Travel and accommodation

\$2,000

Costs for Committee members to attend meetings. Subject to approval by Committee Chair.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.

\$104,000

Training & Careers (\$301,500)

This program is managed and overseen by the Training and Careers Committee whose purpose is to consult on and support a coordinated program on plantation forestry training delivery and training needs. The committee has representation from forest grower representatives (FOA, FFA, Future Foresters, Wood Councils), plus, industry representatives comprising FICA, Competenz (the industry’s ITO), government as well as training providers (School of Forestry, PolyTechs) to ensure the Work Programme supports standards and training solutions that deliver on current industry needs.

The committee actively supports the promotion of forestry careers, both directly and by working with and through other agencies.

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Discover Forestry New Zealand Programme

\$170,000

Develop a forestry culture in the education system using the ‘Wood is Good’ primary school Programme and the ‘Grow Me’ secondary schools programme for delivery of forestry school days, field trips, careers expos and presentations by the Discover Forestry New Zealand organisation across the eight Wood Council regions. The focus will be on engagement with schools and local communities to encourage learning and increased awareness of the training and career opportunities available in forestry.

T&C portal (website) support

\$20,000

Funding for the expansion and update of the Forestry Careers website/portal and the costs associated with annual maintenance. <https://www.forestrycareers.nz/>

Promotional activities

\$10,000

Promotion of Forestry T&C opportunities via magazines (e.g. School Leaver’s magazine), newspapers, digital placement (e.g. social channels).

Training materials

\$20,000

Provision of T&C materials for Expos, schools, etc. Folders, brochures, videos, etc. Promotional activities in Job / Training media.

Social media programme

\$30,000

Delivery of Training and Careers key messages, profiles and attraction campaign material via social media platforms using Grassroots Media. Content will be posted two to three times per week, on two social media platforms (Instagram and Facebook) across the financial year.

Grassroots will deliver 2 hours of ‘Community Management’ a week across all relevant platforms and monthly analytics and recommendations based on how the content is performing.

Forestry Pathways (Tokomariro) Programme for Year 12 & 13 students \$30,000

A level 2 Forestry Foundations programme for young people that will support them to develop their knowledge of, and skills in, the forestry sector. This programme aspires to prepare young people for work within the sector, providing pathways for students wanting to work in silviculture, logging and supporting industries, and/or tertiary study. It will help promote forestry as a rewarding career opportunity for young people.

Sector-wide simulator transport \$20,000

Funding for the transportation, management and demonstration of simulators at selected career expos, school attraction/recruitment events – including a presence at the Mystery Creek Fielddays in 2024. Enabling sector-wide use of the simulators will facilitate hands-on experience of forestry machine operation to interested individuals; particularly students looking to experience a “taster” of forest tasks and a career in forestry.

Travel and accommodation \$1,500

Costs for Committee members to attend meetings. Subject to approval by Committee Chair.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation. \$301,500

Transportation & Logistics (\$154,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation

2024
Funding
Approved

Log Truck Safety Council (LTSC)

\$25,000

The Log Transport Safety Council (LTSC) is a pan industry collaborative of Truck operators, Transport Researchers, Trailer Manufacturers, Forest Owners, Legislators and Enforcement agencies.

The FOA/FFA Transport Committee has nominated three of its members to sit on the LTSC. The LTSC has nominated one LTSC Board member to sit on the transport committee.

The LTSC is the primary industry organisation overseeing log transport related health and safety issues. It liaises with the Forest Industry Safety Council.

Membership allows the FOA/FFA to have representation on the Council.

Driver Wellness Initiatives "Get real behind the wheel"

\$14,000

This request is to continue the Transport Committee support for driver fatigue and wellbeing awareness.

Last year a new campaign named "Get real behind the wheel" began. Social media was used along with targeted campaigns to roll out based on the cab confessionals. This funding will repeat the social media campaign using the existing footage.

We will also survey the industry to brainstorm other driver wellbeing ideas. This will hopefully capture a wide range of ideas which can be shared with the industry to have a range of initiatives to use.

Regional Survey of LTSC Compliance for Log Trucks

\$4,900

A request to fund a survey of log trucks for LTSC certification and LTSC truck signage compliance across at least three ports around NZ, possibly four if some cost can be provided in-kind. The survey involves an individual, probably a student, spending at least one full day at each location on the port where information can be gathered. The location could be a gantry, weighbridge or log scaling site.

A previous survey was completed in January 2023 and the results of were widely distributed and have significantly lifted membership and compliance with Log Transport Safety Accord and associated requirements. LTSC have gained 50 new members (70 trucks) this year. The 2023 survey was in Tauranga, Napier, Masterton and Wellington. 2024 is planned to be Northport, New Plymouth and Tauranga.

Export Port Review

\$70,000

A study to review the forestry export component of the NZ Forestry Supply Chain,

including all aspects of port operations i.e., log marshalling, materials handling, stevedoring, vessel scheduling, vessel loading, port management etc, to understand current practices and potential impediments constraining efficiency and productivity, in order to help determine enhancements required to reduce costs, increase industry sustainability, wellbeing, and return on investment for Forest Growers.

To be undertaken by forestry logistics expert Ian Brown from Woodhill Consulting. The committee believe logistics and trucking delays at the port to be one of the biggest areas affecting the productivity, performance and profitability of the forestry transport sector. The project will identify the major issues adversely affecting efficiency and provide recommendations for improvement.

Website Hosting

\$100

Website hosting for the NZ Forest Road Engineering Manual and Operators Guide 2020

Wood is Good

\$40,000

Wood is Good uses regional collaboration with all 8 Wood Councils across New Zealand to continue the development and expand on the resources and capabilities to coordinate a national primary schools program based on forestry and log transport. This third year of the program aims at increasing knowledge and the awareness of students, teachers and parents of the role of forestry in their local community and an appreciation of our sector contribution for the economy and lowering emissions. Taking a log truck to primary schools across New Zealand and using full assembly and classroom sessions tailored for age groups to combine tree and carbon knowledge into their school sessions with log truck safety. Integrating these forestry classroom sessions with online learning opportunities and a suite of resources left at the school for students to complete. This funding will compliment other funding for the program to be combined with MPI and other stakeholder groups are now being approached - Wide Trust, Wood Processors and Manufactures Association, FICA.

Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.

\$154,000