Summary of Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2007

Victoria

La Trobe University

DI0775819	Ms P Love; Dr S Lawler	
Approved Project Title	**Investigating the source of arsenic contamination in the Bogong Moth and the impacts on the ecology of the Australian alps.**	
2007 :	$43,423	
2008 :	$49,278	
2009 :	$17,000	
Primary RFCD	2707	ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION
Administering Organisation	La Trobe University	

Project Summary

Much of Australias alpine region is National Park and as such, is managed for the conservation of its unique fauna and flora. The recent discovery of Arsenic in the Bogong Moth and one of its key predators, the endangered Pygmy Possum, raises questions about how to manage this threat to this unique ecosystem. Two main concerns are the preservation of the Bogong Moth, as an Indigenous Icon, and the conservation of the Pygmy Possum. In order to manage this threat we need to identify how, when and where the Bogong Moth is exposed to Arsenic. This information will aid in conserving the unique alpine species, including the Mountain Pygmy Possum, and protecting the Indigenous value of the Moth.