

Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2008

New South Wales

Southern Cross University

LP0882141 Dr RT Bush; Dr P Slavich; Dr SG Johnston; Prof LA Sullivan; Dr ED Burton

Approved Project Title **Impacts of climate change on coastal floodplain wetland biogeochemistry and surface water quality**

2008 : \$ 80,000

2009 : \$ 84,000

2010 : \$ 82,000

Primary RFCD 2603 GEOCHEMISTRY

APDI Dr SG Johnston

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

NSW DPI

Richmond River County Council

Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority

Administering Organisation Southern Cross University

Project Summary

The most vulnerable Australian landscapes to global warming driven sea-level rise are our low-lying coastal floodplains. Seawater inundation dramatically affects soil chemistry and water quality. Over 74,000 km² of the low-lying coastal floodplains of Australia contain acid sulfate soils. For these soils, seawater inundation has the potential to greatly enhance the release of acidity, with a high capacity to severely degrade wetlands, estuaries and farmland. This project will directly contribute to our national capacity to assess and manage impacts from climate change, providing greater protection of our coastal floodplains resources.