

Summary of Successful Linkage - Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2010 by State and Organisation

New South Wales

Charles Sturt University

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Approved Project Title **Protecting Australia's pine plantations from exotic pests and climate change.**

2010	\$95,000.00
2011	\$95,000.00
2012	\$95,000.00
Primary FoR	0705 FORESTRY SCIENCES
APAI	1

Partner Organisations

Forestry Tasmania, Forests NSW, National Sirex Coordination Committee, NSW DPI

Administering Organisation Charles Sturt University

Project Summary

This project will protect pine plantations (representing 57% of Australia's \$3.3 billion pa forestry industry) from the dual threat of exotic pests and climate change. Sirex wood wasp has been well controlled until the recent, unprecedented, increase of ips bark beetles. The ips beetle is now disrupting biological control of sirex by its feeding activity so work is required to understand and combat this effect. The work is made more urgent by looming climate change because storm-damage, drought and heat stressed trees are especially vulnerable to sirex attack. It is estimated that this novel pest management approach could save the industry at least \$188 million pa based on a conservative estimate of reducing losses by 10%.