2023 Work Programme

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CONTENTS

Forest Growers Levy Trust Budget

	2021 Actual 1 Jan – 31 Dec	2022 Actual 1 Jan – 31 Dec	2023 Budget 1 Jan – 31 Dec
Commodity Levies	**11,717,060**	**10,855,200**	**10,890,000**
Interest income	2,774	20,116	15,000
Total income	**11,719,834**	**10,875,316**	**10,905,000**
Operational	413,280	353,770	411,000
Secretariat	90,000	95,000	95,000
Programme management fees	1,386,673	1,491,278	1,553,000
Work Programme Costs			
Environment	113,275	209,734	287,000
Fire	33,804	20,000	26,694
Forest Biosecurity/Surveillance	822,454	913,424	1,046,000
Health & Safety	805,386	687,461	818,615
Marketing & Promotion	568,067	690,252	776,329
Research, Science and Technology*	4,983,938	5,424,441	5,416,100
Transportation	183,822	168,989	156,000
SME Committee	116,373	91,330	118,680
Training & Careers	480,032	499,796	577,000
Total Work Programme	**8,107,151**	**8,705,427**	**9,222,418**
Total Expenditure	**9,997,104**	**10,645,475**	**11,281,418**
Income tax on interest	**0**	**0**	**0**
Unallocated Funds	**0**	**0**	**100,000**
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	**1,722,730**	**(229,841)**	**(476,418)**

The comparative figures for special projects are shown according to the general headings only.
Special projects, by definition, are not comparable year by year. Actual project spending falls within budget categories that are consistent with the referendum budget categories.

Operational ($411,000)

Integral and database maintenance ($245,000)

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 2021 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 ($166,000)

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	46,000
Legal expenses, including legal support for the Work Programme	9,000
Audit fee, accounting and tax advice	11,000
Communications	55,000
Other (bank fees, communications, insurance, website)	20,000
Compliance audit	25,000
	$166,000

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 ($1,553,000)

Changes to Programme Management Costs: these are reviewed each year and adjusted to account for any new resources and/or circumstances to comprise 87.5% of total costs. The remaining 12.5% is attributable to either FOA or secretariat activities.

The management costs include FOA resources and are broken down as follows:

FOA Staffing Approximately 9 FTEs based in Wellington, Rotorua & Christchurch 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.	1,283,000
Phones Fixed and cellular, line charge and usage	8,000
Stationery and Printing	16,000
General Depreciation and other	13,000
R & M premises and equipment IT costs, meeting and storage SaaS costs and office maintenance	26,000
Occupancy Includes portion of office rental, power, cleaning services, office consumables	124,000
Travel and meetings Catering for committees, flights, accommodation, rental vehicles, workshops, stakeholders' meetings, expert/contractors travel when required, venue charges	76,000
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)	7,000
Programme Management Total	$1,553,000
Per month	129,417

Work Programme Costs ($9,222,418)

Fire ($26,694)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Forestry Fire Strategy - Development 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.	$20,000	$18,500
Review and update Fire risk management Guidelines It has been four 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.	$10,000	$8,194
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$26,694

Forest Biosecurity ($1,046,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Forest Biosecurity Consultant 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	$40,000	$40,000
Forest Biosecurity Surveillance (FBS) Programme The annual risk based surveillance for pests and pathogens of plantation forest species. The field work is undertaken for the forest industry by SPS Biota. The objectives of the survey are to protect the forest estate through early detection of new-to-New Zealand and new-to-region pest (insects and pathogens) incursions and to protect trade from the potential negative impacts of any new incursions. (This includes being able to confidently establish Area Freedom) Costs for the FBS field surveillance and associated diagnostics activities are currently cost-shared 50/50 with MPI.	$338,000	$338,000
Forest Biosecurity Surveillance (FBS) – Diagnostics The annual risk based surveillance for pests and pathogens of plantation forest species. The diagnostics work is undertaken for the forest industry by Scion. The objectives of the surveys are to protect the forest estate through early detection of new-to-New Zealand and new-to-region pest (insects and pathogens) incursions and to protect trade from the potential negative impacts of any new incursions. (This includes being able to confidently establish Area Freedom). Costs for the FBS diagnostics are split across FBS, NMA and FHA activities with BNZ cost sharing 50% of the FBS component costs, the remainder are covered by the FGLT.	$243,000	$243,000
FBS Programme (NON MODEL) This funding is for the proportion of the FBS Programme that is not currently cost-shared with BNZ. This component is referred to as "non-model allocation surveillance" (NMA) and is largely 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	$198,000	$198,000

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.		
GIA Secretariat Support 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	$45,000	$45,000
Plant Pass Operational Agreement (GIA) 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 minimises 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.	$18,000	$18,000
Lepidoptera Readiness and Response Contingency Planning In 2021, several Government Industry Agreement (GIA) partners agreed to undertake a baseline assessment on the current state of readiness for Lepidoptera, including gaps, opportunities and recommendations for action. This stocktake informed the development of a work programme for a multisector lepidoptera readiness operational agreement and an associated prioritised readiness work programme. This project resourcing would represent the Forest sectors cost share of the delivery of the agreed work programme	$21,500	$21,500
Forest Biosecurity Awareness improvement and Communication Programme (including Comms plan/strategy, Pinenet, Conference, Find a pest, Fact Sheets, SPS training, TMBC etc) This project aims to continue the development and implementation of forest biosecurity communications plan which encompasses developing, maintaining, and delivering biosecurity awareness resources, promoting good biosecurity practices, and training	$60,000	$37,500

including monitoring and reporting of potential biosecurity issues, good and simple biosecurity risk reduction practices that can be implemented by the industry, and enable regular communications targeted at specific audiences (i.e., PineNet, Bulletin, Tree Grower, etc). This encompasses and consolidates pre-existing awareness and engagement activities, such as the annual forest Biosecurity Conference, Find-A-Pest reporting app, Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital sponsorship, Pine Net/Forest Biosecurity News etc.		
Plant Pass Forest Nursery Pilot trials The Plant Pass certification standard requires some adaptation to ensure that while it can achieve its biosecurity objectives it can also be practically applied to the unique operational requirements of forest nurseries. While initially it was anticipated that a forestry module would enable this, it would be best to tailor a module around the learnings and outcome of some pilot testing of the scheme on forest nurseries. This project aims to support piloting the scheme with two nurseries (one bare root and one container nursery) as case studies and subsequently developing a forestry module (if required).	$15,000	$15,000
Forest Biosecurity Notification and Triage System This project aims to establish and maintain a consistent and common point of entry into the surveillance system for reporting of potential forest health or biosecurity issues, i.e., a single industry phone number/freephone and email address, alongside the Find-a-Pest app. It also establishes an initial triage and investigation capability to be able to receive and rapidly follow up any calls or notifications that are made and advise the notifiers on the best course of action.	$10,000	$10,000
Forest Biosecurity Readiness planning (Iacanosticta, Phytophthora, PWN etc) This project will contribute to the development and delivery of a prioritised forestry readiness work plan for a range readiness activities and forest pests of pathogens in partnership with Biosecurity New Zealand as part of our GIA partnership. This project will meet the industries cost share contribution to agreed priority readiness work.	$60,000	$60,000
Biosecurity Guidelines (Hygiene and basic biosecurity) This project aims to develop a Forest Biosecurity Guidelines booklet that covers off the basics of good biosecurity practice for the forestry sector in a simple and easily digestible format for any forest sector participant. The aim would be to provide forest owners and those operating in or around forests with the basics to help them improve their biosecurity practices.	$20,000	$20,000
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$1,046,000

Environment ($287,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Environmental Consultant 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 on a quarterly basis and includes attending Committee meetings, advice on RMA and planning matters, and updates to national policies in light of a number of regulatory changes.	$10,000	$12,500
Statutory change and subsequent implementation Leading up to an election year a glut of legislation reform is being rushed through, notably RMA reform. Consultant and legal advice is often required to support FOA submissions. Resource needs to remain in place to be ready to respond to new legislation as it is socialized. It is difficult to predict when new consultations will occur, the funding needs to be in place as a contingency. 2022 saw the first iteration of the Natural and Built Environments Act (NBE) and, in Quarter four, an updated draft of the NBE and the first iteration of the Spatial Planning Act (SPA). Submissions are likely to be due in early 2023. Following on from these the National Planning Framework and the development of 14 regional plans is expected. Funding will be required to both prepare submissions but also work with Government to support the implementation of new regulations. Engagement with policy makers will also be required to manage the intersection of existing environmental standards and policy statements with RMA reform. Other policy changes that will require Committee resources include further consultation on afforestation and carbon forestry regulation via the NES-PF, Essential Freshwater, NPS-Indigenous Biodiversity, other updates to the NES-PF and changes to the ETS. Expected updates to electricity regulations have not yet been consulted on, it is possible this will occur in 2023.	$50,000	$67,000
FSC Cluster Group Support and FSC Standards Development Group Support The FSC Standards Development Group meets as a forum to engage across a range of FSC and wider industry topics and is Chaired by an FOA representative, who manages the meetings with environmental, Māori, and social chamber representatives. The funding includes reimbursement of travel costs, catering, and attendance fees for these representatives to meet with the FOA representatives up to four times a year. The Environment Committee will hold a workshop to support the implementation of the new FSC standard, funds will be accessed for this.	$1,000	$5,000

The FSC Cluster is the group of 22 FSC-Certified companies in New Zealand and the funding supports some of the costs of the Cluster to meet such as venue hire and catering. The FSC Cluster is mainly funded by certified companies, but a small contribution is made to the logistics of the meetings.		
Committee Biodiversity Strategy and Other Biodiversity Initiatives A significant number of indigenous species inhabitat plantation forests including a range of rare and threatened species. A small number of these have been studied specifically in the plantation forest habitat, although this has been somewhat limited to date. The studies that have been completed have provided invaluable information to better understand how those species make use of the plantation forest habitat and how forestry operations impact them. The outcomes of these studies have been used to inform industry protocols for those species. Without such research it is almost impossible to develop best practice management protocols that are underpinned by robust science. Increasing regulation to protect indigenous species habitat is a key risk to the industry. In the absence of good science, biodiversity regulation is often overly precautionary and ill thought through – in the worst cases scenario this could result in significant and costly constraints on the industry with negligible biodiversity benefits. The only way to ensure that research is carried out in priority areas that will benefit the forest industry is to take an active role in prioritising and encouraging research directions. This project continues on from the work completed in 2022 and is for the Environment Committee to seek specialist advice from a range of ecologists with practical knowledge of biodiversity in plantation forests, to review research completed to date and develop a robust strategy to guide future biodiversity research in production forests. The key focus will be on the productive forest area, including species that utilise the production forest habitat, and the direct interface between production forests and embedded indigenous vegetation remnants. The strategy will identify key knowledge gaps and prioritise areas for future research. Other initiatives include targeted work developing additional rare species guides, it is recognized that additional guides are needed. Funds will also be accessed to promote the work completed with Parker Conservation on karearea, and prepare journal papers to publish the outcomes of the study.	$40,000	$37,000
Land Use Study – Pakuratahi Paired Catchment 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.	$80,000	$80,000

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 etc. However, the committee does not have the resources to fund the amount requested and should be noted that a commitment to undertaking this project will need to occur over successive years to be of value.		
Forest Practice Guides The sub-committee working on the forest practice guides (FPGs) has recently expanded. Discussions have also been held to explore combining the FPGs with the older but more comprehensive Environmental Code of Practice (ECOP) following feedback from the wider sector. Te Uru Rakau have signalled their support to endorse a as co-branded document and contribute to the development of an updated ECOP. Funding is sought to cover meeting and travel expenses in support of the expanded sub-committee; and also to engage a consultant to help develop the FPG/ECOP guidance.	$20,000	$22,000
Wilding conifers advocacy and subscription Funding support is requested to liaise with the Wilding Conifers Control Program (WCCP). FOA has representatives on the various decision-making groups 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. It should be noted that the WCCP has had their level of government funding significantly reduced and as such will be lobbying for additional funding wherever possible. 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.	$5,500	$5,500
Pukaki Downs Wilding Biomass Opportunities Assessment Although wilding conifer populations are mostly a result from legacy issues, the perception of these forests on the forestry sector erodes forestry's social license. The need to sustainably manage the wilding conifer population is large. Management funding for control is slowing and having the potential to link a revenue stream to this biomass could solidify the forward management of the program as well as kickstart a sustainable biofuel industry. Many industrial businesses are already committing to biofuels as their future however the biomass market is largely immature. This project will develop an assessment framework for the cost/benefit of the utilisation of wilding forests for bioenergy, and identify suitable ongoing management pathways, including where replanting with a low wilding risk commercial species is appropriate to meet forward biomass demand.	$20,000	$5,000
Monitoring and Assessing Native Planting This project continues from 2022. Monitoring of native planting and from these results,	$25,000	$13,000

recommendations and advice on sites and species to improve future success. This would first involve appropriate monitoring and assessment of current native planting across the country on a variety of sites, including those which have had funding by the taxpayer or rate payer – MPI/Te Uru Rakau and regional or district councils. It will improve the economic value of native planting by helping to improve the typically low survival rate of native planting and significantly improve overall productivity of native tree planting.		
Pest Profile in Plantation Forests At this year's Environment Committee biodiversity strategy workshop**,** it was hypothesised that rat numbers were lower in plantation forests but recognised that there wasn't comprehensive 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, the project has also been pitched, with a positive response, to Predator Free 20250. 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.	$100,000	$40,000
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$287,000

Health and Safety ($818,615)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Forest Industry Safety Council (FISC) 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:		$818,615

FISC operating costs (National Safety Director, administrative support costs and office overheads	$357,615
Stakeholder engagement via regular newsletters, regional workshops, attendance at industry events and an annual Safetree conference	$72,000
Costs associated with the operation of the Council and their governance of the agreed work programme and projects	$63,000
Safetree Certification (Bravegen licensing, Governance panel and certification costs)	$250,000
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	$20,000
Total	**$818,615**

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 ($776,329)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Facts & Figures publication The flagship industry one-stop-shop annually updated information source, published with MPI, on all aspects of forest industry. Data covers production, exports, world forestry, comparisons with other sectors of the primary industries, contact lists, biodiversity monitoring, employment, health and safety progress, environmental monitoring, employment, health and safety progress and environmental monitoring. Option for Māori translation $20,000.	$15,000	$20,000
External Membership Membership of other organisations, such as Business NZ, ICFPA	$10,000	$10,000
Sponsorship Sponsorship Funding available to support events, either regularly or one-off events, which enhance industry messaging and networking and provide speaking platforms.	$10,000	$15,000
FFA Communications To assist FFA's work in publishing and distributing Tree Grower and Newsletters, the extension and maintenance of the small-scale forester contact list, the updating of the FFA website and Farm Forestry E-News.	$65,000	$65,000
Small Scale Levy Payer Admin Grant Funding for the administration, reporting and support of activities aimed at small-scale levy payers.	$40,000	$40,000
Wood – our low carbon future Continuation of the joint MPI forest and wood promotion campaign as an extension and enhancement into Phase 2 of the Love our Forests campaign. Feedback on the MPI consultation on the ITP has emphasised the need for industry social license. Wolcf (previously 'It's Time for Wood') has been developed on the seven themes of; Carbon sequestration, Indigenous forestry, Novel and lifestyle wood uses, Bioeconomy, Trees on farms, Modern Engineered Timber, Māori dimension The target audiences include the public at large, but more specifically targeting is at farmers to plant trees, and to attract consumers to wood products.	$150,000	$170,0000

Since this campaign was initially mooted, the incorporation of the Industry Transformation Plan has emerged as a prime imperative.

To build on the initial campaign it is necessary to move to Phase 2 as soon as possible after the 2022/2023 holiday period, and before the election campaign begins in earnest.

Website at; https://www.woodourlowcarbonfuture.nz/

Agency Support The Promotions Committee declined the application from BlacklandPR as being inadequately detailed. The application addressed concerns frequently raised in the previous Promotions Committee, such as 'getting the good stories out there', specialist advice to Comms Manager, network opportunities and development of a rural engagement strategy. Agency support needs to be considered in the context of the appointment of a Communications Advisor and resourcing priorities.	$100,000	$80,000
FFA Conference The South Canterbury branch of the NZ Farm Forestry Association is hosting the 66th annual conference in Timaru to allow farmers, farm foresters and small-scale forest owners to meet, discuss and clarify key issues over land use. The theme of the conference will be: The new normal Opportunity or threat Land use rules and regulations have been rapidly evolving in response to concerns over fresh water, climate change, economic resilience and animal welfare. Landowner reactions to these changes are following a bell curve: at one extreme, some are taking it in their stride. In the middle, many are concerned or dismayed. At the other extreme, there are those that sometimes act in a radical and irrational manner.	$5,000	$5,000
Rural Games These Rural Games are televised and a major event on the agricultural calendar. Forestry will be included in all the television publicity for the event, on all the promotional material, and a social media package included as per the proposal. We will sit alongside other big agricultural sponsors such as Fonterra, Norwood, Stihl and Palmerston North City Council, and showcase forestry as part of the primary industries. What are you planning to do? The "what" We will set up a dedicated 'forestry' sector stall in the Agrifutures pavilion for the full 3 days with information on forestry and careers. We will set up 2 'forestry games' as part of the Clash of the Colleges Agri Competition that secondary schools from all over the lower North Island compete in.	$50,000	$50,000
TUR/FFA Engagement Following the success of a series of pilot workshops NZFFA ran for sheep and beef farmers earlier this year, Te Uru Rakau – NZ Forest Service has offered to contract the NZFFA to deliver specific projects that will help it meet its objectives in forestry promotion,	$50,000	$50,000

education and extension. While these new projects are currently only in outline, they will be covered by an annual work programme that will in turn fall under a three-year Memorandum of Understanding, which (in August 2022) is being drafted. This application is for co-funding to assist with the first annual programme through 2023.

Billboard Promotions To exploit the opportunity for the erection of Love our Forests Billboards in key locations throughout New Zealand, based on the unique visual opportunities offered by a forest landscape beside a heavily used main highway. Three large scale sites are work in progress; Topuni in Northland, Lake Rotoaira Forest Trust and the Foxton Straight. An invitation has been issued by the Hawkes Bay Regional Council to collaborate in the design and printing of information billboards in their forests, a consideration in a regional engagement strategy. Funding is additionally sought for continuing the plywood sheet billboards for the 'Standing with Pines' campaign and the additional forest promotion being conducted by FFA. See the new 'Standing with Pines' site at; https://www.standingwithpines.co.nz/	$30,000	$50,000
Digital Development Proposal from MediaLab rejected by Promotions Committee. However, an agency is required to deliver social media for Phase 2 of the Wolcf campaign in the period February – April.	$30,000	$30,000
Key Research FGFLT has engaged Key Research on three previous occasions to report on public opinion on the forest industry, from issues as diverse as how people wish to receive information on the forest industry to their views on the use of GM. The 2021 survey included questions on wood and its use in order to assess the Wolcf campaign. It is envisaged that the 2023 survey will assess the efficacy of the campaign.	$15,000	$25,000
University of Waikato Scholarship Te-Wao-Tapu-Nui-a-Tāne (the great forests), including plantation forests, play a significant role in moderating global carbon and water cycles, and sustaining local environments. Despite the demonstrable importance of forests to our climate change response, the urbanisation of human lives has resulted in a lack of recognition for the myriad entanglements between humans and forests, and a de-valuing of trees. This project aims to identify and record the complexity of relationships between people and Pinus radiata in Aotearoa – New Zealand. We locate mātauranga Māori alongside Western philosophy, arts and plant physiology to create novel holistic understanding of pine through a short film. An innovative set of scientific measurements will be used to 'interview' pine trees, including leaf gas exchange and stable isotope analysis, to provide the basis for interpreting the lived experience of these trees. We will interview Māori	$18,000	$18,000

tōhunga from Te Whānua-ā-Apanui and Te Whakatōhea iwi, as well as recording Pākehā perspectives.

Wingspan National Birds Prey Centre. An education centre, research institution, rehabilitation centre and breeding facility where people can visit and see karearea up close during interactive flying displays (hosted by the country's leading experts), learn about this unique species, its cultural significance, and its place in New Zealand's ecological diversity, showcase the forest industry's important role in protecting this taonga species and contribute to conservation in action. This venue will enable Wingspan to grow and maintain its profile in the community, become a community hub for cultural, conservation, education activities, further build on its national research contribution and develop additional revenue streams for the Trusts conservation activities.	$35,500	$10,000
Biosecurity Congress Biosecurity threats represent an ever-present risk for forest owners and managers due to the serious economic, social and environmental consequences that they can cause. The FOA/FFA Biosecurity committee has recognised the need to raise awareness of the threat posed by biosecurity risks to our natural environment and resources and the importance of improving biosecurity risk management and the science that underpins the biosecurity system. The International Congress on Biological Invasions (ICBI) is one of the largest international cross discipline and cross sector forums that focuses on biosecurity issues. The 4th ICBI is being hosted by Plant and Food Research in Christchurch and is supported by several CRI's and entities working on biosecurity issues including B3 and Scion. This sponsorship support will ensure that New Zealand's Forest growing sector, through the Forest Growers Levy Trust, will continue to be seen to place a high priority on supporting and improving New Zealand's biosecurity system.	$5,000	$5,000
National Fieldays 2023 – Mystery Creek A joint project with MPI for a significant present at the 2023 National Fieldays, after the success of the first forestry hub at the 2022 event.	$100,000	$100,000
Plantation Forestry Aotearoa – 2nd edition The 1st edition grew out of the need to provide a forest industry overview post the 2019 election. Very well received filling a gap in forest industry information, beyond that provided a Facts and Figures for the general public.	$20,000	$20,000
Promotional Campaign – post June 2023 The fund made available for promotional work after the Mystery Creek Fieldays in June 2023 and the extensive Wood – Our Low Carbon Future campaign.	$13,000	$13,329
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$776,329

Research Science & Technology ($5,416,100)

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 and Automation and Robotics and continue to receive strong industry support and are considered highly relevant to achieving the Forest Growers Science and Innovation Plan. A major new 7-year programme *Precision Silviculture Programme* (PSP) officially commenced in May 2022 with $25.5 million funding from the Forest Growers Levy Trust, the Ministry for Primary Industries, forestry companies and consultants, forestry contractors, and equipment suppliers. The PSP aims to bring forest management practices into the 21st Century by applying mechanisation, automation, and digital technologies throughout the tree nursery production and silviculture value chains (planting, pruning, and thinning).

The Forest Growers Levy Trust confirmed that the allocation of levy funds to the Research, Science and Technology portfolio in 2023 would be equivalent to 2022 (approx. $5.4 million). In addition to this, an IRD R&D tax credit ($520,000) was received in May 2022 and will be allocated towards funding research programmes in 2023.

It is also possible that project funds will be available through the Industry Transformation Plan (ITP), for projects relating to diversified forestry initiatives during 2023. This could amount to $500,000 and will require co-funding from industry. Ongoing ITP funds in following years could be available through a contestable process.

A major focus in 2023 will be the development of a new programme proposal (Growing Confidence in Alternative Species) for submission to the Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures (SFFF) fund. This is expected to be a 7-year programme, needing a levy co-investment of $500,000 - $700,000/year. The FRC will carefully consider how best to spread and balance the range of initiatives between the ITP and SFFF in the longer term.

Twenty-six new project proposals seeking funding in 2023 have been assessed by the Forest Research Committee (FRC) and provisional recommendations on ranking and funding allocations in 2023 are provided below. The evaluation process included the strategic assessment framework and associated tool (developed in 2020). The model uses a weighted assessment to measure each project's ability to contribute to a set of drivers. In making its recommendations, the FRC also considered a variety of aspects alongside the strategic scoring process. Moderating factors were also considered following proposal ranking.

The following aspects were considered:

1. Recommendations from other FGLT committees
2. Co-funding required or confirmed
3. Implications to prior investment if not funded
4. Consideration was given to the relationship of proposals to other activities that may be occurring elsewhere.
5. FRC were asked to consider if the proposals could be modified or improved to deliver greater value?
6. Were there alternatives ways of supporting the proposal?
7. How would investment affect the portfolio balance?
8. Area of contribution within strategy?
9. Consideration was given to the funding risk/proportion of total funding requested

Nine project proposals relate to diversified forestry, and these have been targeted for a funding application through the ITP (above). This will require a levy co-investment of approximately $300,000. We are waiting to hear back from MPI on the funding application.

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Ongoing projects		
Automation and Robotics in Harvesting and Logistics 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%.	$1,035,000	$1,035,000
21st Century Tissue Culture Partnership (TCP) 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 perquisite for gene editing and other genetic technologies.	$600,000	$600,000
Tree Microbiome 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.	$300,000	$300,000
Precision Silviculture Programme 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.	$1,500,000	$1,500,000
Rural Fire Research The Rural Fire Research programme is extending current research testing the new	$65,000	$65,000

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 though 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 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.	$70,600	$70,600
Next Generation Genetics and Deployment – Elite Genetic Gain Assessment Agreement has been reached with Radiata Pine Breeding Company to work with them on collecting information at stand level on the performance of the latest genetic material coming out of the breeding programme. RPBC are establishing the trials and assessing individual tree performance to determine breeding values and FGLT is measuring the PSP's established in the stands for growth modelling purposes to demonstrate the value of genetic improvement. The programme also includes a nursery automation component aimed at speeding up the planting of elite tree stocks coming out of the tissue culture programmes in small plugs to reduce the reliance on nursery labour.	$105,000	$105,000
Hosting and Supporting On-line Radiator Calculator 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.	$35,000	$35,000

Forest Growers Conference and Workshops Support for workshops and conferences where the full cost cannot be recovered through user pays.	$20,000	$20,000
Forest Operations and Disease Control 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.	$77,500	$77,500
Biotech-based durable resistance to fungal forest pathogens 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.	$100,000	$100,000
Resilient Forests Based on three years of prior research and the legacy of the GCFF 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	$2,300,000	$480,000

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. *Note: The IRD tax credit ($520,000) will also be used to support this project delivering a total of $1,000,000*		
Diversifying Forestry for a Resilient Future 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.	$160,000	$160,000
Sustainable forest vegetation management practices Protecting our licence to operate with herbicides through sustainable forest vegetation management practices. The aim is to transform forest vegetation management practices through use of precision technologies, new customised herbicide formulations and evaluation of alternative products and/or approaches to vegetation management. Three major research themes: 1. Optimising herbicide formulations (liquid and granular) for precision application systems (such as UAVs and mechanised planting systems), including quantifying associated efficacy and off-target effects for these systems. 2. Evaluate alternative herbicides (with a focus on alternatives for glyphosate) and alternative management regimes that can minimise herbicide use. 3. Determine the presence of herbicide resistance in bareroot nurseries through an industry survey. We will define opportunities to overcome if detected, including development of a potential MBIE Endeavour Programme in collaboration with AgResearch.	$200,000	$200,000
Unlocking AI through shared datasets This project aims to build accurate and generalisable geospatial Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms by pooling data and resources held across the industry. The shared benefits of pooling data to increase the size and diversity of the training set will be demonstrated by training powerful AI models that automate common tasks such as tree detection and cut-over mapping across a broad range of NZ conditions. Results will be delivered using a new	$100,000	$100,000

approach to technology transfer where models and ready-to-train dataset packages will be delivered to forest owners through widely-adopted platforms such as ArcGIS.

Biosecurity Risk Evaluation Framework To focus biosecurity surveillance, readiness, and response we need to know which insects are most likely to arrive and become an issue for forestry. Building on previous development of standardised, semi-automatic, risk analysis methods applicable to different NZ primary industries, we will apply and further develop phase one of the current framework to a hazard list of 609 insects associated with *Pinus radiata*. Evaluation of this initial phase, which focuses on arrival and establishment risk, will inform future decisions on expansion of the framework to other forestry hazards and the future implementation of a phase two that would assess potential spread and impacts.	$64,100	$64,000
Utilising the Trichoderma root endophytes for forestry bioprotection and production Ongoing work is being conducted to establish a long-term symbiotic relationship between forestry trees and beneficial native *Trichoderma* root endophytes, to improve production, alleviate the economic cost of current and future incursions of foliar diseases and reduce agrichemical use. Initial results in young *Trichoderma* inoculated plantation radiata pine trees showed a significant increase in height, trunk diameter (DBH) and Dothistroma needle blight (DNB) disease suppression. This project is looking to validate and commercialise a *Trichoderma* bioprotectant for forestry bioprotection and production.	$64,000	$64,000
***P. radiata* growth promoting microbes** During previous research (MBIE contract LVLX1702 and co-funded by FGR240 SA Nitrogen-fixing *Pinus radiata*) we have identified a *Trichoderma* fungus that forms synergistic associations with nitrogen-fixing bacteria to yield growth benefits for *Pinus radiata* seedlings in nursery trials. Trees from these trials have been planted out in Dalethorpe (Canterbury) and Kinleith (Waikato), and we want to continue monitoring these trees to quantify the extent of post-nursery benefits and determine if the *Trichoderma* strains maintain their association with pine after planting. Comparisons between the two sites will allow us to identify how site conditions, including native microbial communities, affect the growth benefits and persistence of the *Trichoderma*, with an end goal of determining the suitability of the inoculation strategy for varied conditions.	$40,000	$40,000
Controlling soilborne pathogens Stopping the "super-spreader": A novel approach to control the establishment of forest soilborne pathogens in New Zealand 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. The project will:	$100,000	$100,000

1. Evaluate and rate efficacy of field treatments individually and in combination;

2. Assess the impact of these treatments on soilborne pathogens;

3. Investigate the impact of treatments on soil microbiome and system functionalities; and

4. Produce a pathway to adoptable soil treatment protocols for forest nurseries to complement the existing Plant Pass issued by New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporation (NZPPI) to curb biosecurity threats and produce healthy forests.

FGLT contribution to ITP Funded Programme Multiple projects co-funded by ITP and industry	$300,00	$300,000
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation		$5,416,100

Small & Medium Enterprise ($118,680)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Enhancement & Delivery of Treefarmer Web Tool Treefarmer is an innovative geospatial web tool developed by FGLT over the last three years with the aim of improving the afforestation and harvesting experience of small-scale forest growers. It achieves this by raising the grower's awareness of the issues and providing decision support for; species choice, productivity, costs, risks, and opportunities they will encounter with tree planting and harvesting. Treefarmer has been developed in stages and now the delivery of greater species choice, risk evaluation (fire, wind, disease) and economic returns, will encourage greater use and subsequently improve afforestation and harvest outcomes. Treefarmer also fulfils a tech transfer role for the FGLT research programme and provides integrated desk top delivery of results from various current and past levy funded projects. Productivity surfaces, yield models, risk models, and carbon tables are regularly improved with new data and modelling techniques. Costs and prices need adjustment on a regular basis. These improvements have been recommended by the Treefarmer User Group and TUR subject matter experts.	$57,680	$57,680
ITP Programme – Diversified / Alternative Species Under the ITP Programme, funding is matched $1 for $1, in this this case for the collection of Eucalypt and Redwood seeds for study as alternative species.	$60,000	$60,000
Travel and Accommodation Costs for Committee members to attend meetings	$1,000	$1,000
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$118,680

Training & Careers ($577,000)

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 Program 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	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Wood is Good 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.	$80,000	$40,000
T&C Materials Provision of T&C materials for Expos, schools, etc. Folders, brochures, videos, etc. Promotional activities in Job / Training media.	$20,000	$20,000
T&C Promotional Activities Promotion of T&C opportunities in the Forestry sector in magazines, newspapers, etc.	$15,000	$10,000
Pathways Program – Tokomariro A level 2 Forestry Foundations programme for young people that will support them to develop their knowledge of, and skills in, the Forestry Industry. This programme will prepare young people for work within the industry, providing pathways for students wanting to work in silviculture, logging and supporting industries, and/or tertiary study. It will help these young people see Forestry as a career opportunity for their future.	$30,000	$20,000

50% of the students will have obtained full time employment by the end of term three. An apprenticeship has been offered to one student beginning in January 2023.		
Learning & Training needs of small-scale foresters Around 13,000 Small Scale Forest Owners currently provide about 40% of forest levy funds, despite the fact that their businesses are usually side-line and intermittent, that most of them have no professional forestry qualifications and that few are affiliated to any forestry organisation. The Forestry Roadmap to 2050 aims to substantially lift the productivity and value of the industry and it is important that we bring these small-scale forest owners along with it, but since forestry is not their day job, many lack the knowledge, practical and business skills to enable them to contribute. We propose offering them a series of short courses based on the NZ Farm Forestry Model (Trees on Farms) in partnership with Te Uru Rakau under a wider MOU that is currently being drafted. This application seeks co-funding for five such courses.	$25,000	$25,000
Establish a Vocational Training System – Part 2 FRAG aims to build on the foundation work completed in the 2022 year, to define, describe and establish a system that delivers vocational training required by the forest industry. The blueprint developed in Part 1 kept pace with the progress, which was dependent upon, but constrained by, information emerging from the RoVE entities, Muka Tangata, Te Pukenga and earlier, Competez as the Transition ITO. This project therefore in 2023 will consolidate the shape of the forestry training entity set up to provide structure and operating systems for the vocational training needs of the industry.	$130,000	$110,000
Future Foresters – Training / Professional Development Future Foresters have several aims: 1) Create a network for new/early career foresters (and connecting with experienced foresters) by using regional networking events, conference involvement, social media, and branded items; 2) Provide important training opportunities for our members' career development (based around at least 1 theme per year hosted in multiple regions, e.g. 2019 was Public Speaking, 2020 was Mental Health, 2022 is Inclusive Leadership (delayed from 2021)); 3) Promote forestry to the wider community by taking part in careers events, including linking with many industry stakeholders (such as WIDE, Wood Councils, FICA, etc), across the country and through social media advertising. We will continue these aims and the subsequent activities and events, with the help of our Regional Leaders, expand them across the country.	$30,000	$30,000
T & C Portal Support Forestry Careers Portal update, maintenance and expansion.	$20,000	$15,000

Generation Programme The funding will be utilised to explore options to grow, develop and enhance the Generation Programme. The Generation Programme in its current form has Toi Ohomai Institute NZ delivering a NZ Certificate in Forestry Foundation Skills (Level 2) over a 12–16-week period and with support by the CNI Wood Council; improve employability skills and introduce students to the various employment opportunities within the Forest & Wood industry. This funding will be utilised to undertake a feasibility study of how the programme can be extended to offer several strands of the Generation Programme. This could include for example: a micro credential, alternative training providers, several phases, a rolling intake programme and a greater emphasis on the work ready component through block work experience placements. The Generation Programme provides: 1. Twelve to sixteen-week base camp induction course at Toi Ohomai Campus in Tokoroa where the trainees will complete a NZ Certificate in Forestry Foundation Skills (Level 2) and are supported with pastoral care and mentoring, 2. Transition into full time paid employment with an individualised 2-year training and career pathway which comprises a Level 3 qualification (in their chosen area of the industry) and on-going pastoral care and mentoring, 3. The option to continue study to achieve a Level 3 qualification, then into full time paid employment with an individualised 2-year training and career pathway which comprises a Level 3 qualification (in their chosen area of the industry) and on-going pastoral care and mentoring, and The option to continue study to achieve a Level 6 qualification.	$75,000	$50,000
Grow Me Grow Me is an engagement program building on the last three years of commitment to develop an understanding and interest from secondary school students for careers in the forest sector. The program showcases available careers options and local workplaces by encouraging more young people leaving school to enter our sector. Along with this, develop relationships with the careers advisors and relevant teachers at the schools by educating them in changing trends in our industry and what workplaces are in their communities. Contribute to our members "social license" to operate by providing them a with a platform and capabilities to explain their businesses. All careers expos and events are attended, secondary school presentations coordinated, and targeted "Forestry Big Day Out" bus trips organised in each region.	$60,000	$60,000
Job Enrichment via Mentoring This project aims to use the Proof of Concept outcomes for the Mentor trials in 2021 and 2022 to establish the Mentoring Programme as part of 'mainstream' forest industry training.	$97,000	$69,000

This will involve interface with the forest industry training entity set up to manage industry oversight of vocational education and training. The Mentor project operating systems will be incorporated within this structure. These will include; • Formalising a Silviculture Advisory Group. • Proactive attention to creating Skills Standards to apply as new 'currency' to vocational education, specifically in 'General skills' and introductory learning. • Establishing set up and ongoing costs. • A working part of a forestry training QMS, prepared to specify the operating policies and procedures relating to the Mentor Programme JEtM. • Linking credentials award and funding with the National Qualifications and provider system • Reconfiguring materials as required • Preparing a change management plan Testing concepts in forest harvesting, roading and technical/mensuration.		
University of Canterbury – Model to Forecast Future Labour Requirements Aim: To develop a model to forecast workforce requirements at a regional level by generic job role. Project activities: The model will be developed by documenting the total workflow generated over a rotation, from the decisions to harvest and replant, or to plant new land in forest. The model will be developed for one region but the results will be able to be generalised to any other region in New Zealand. The development and implementation model will utilise existing data (e.g. NEFD, nursery surveys, and industry knowledge). The funding sought for this project will primarily fund a Masters Scholarship and payment of fees. If the application for funds is successful, the scholarship will be advertised and suitable applicants evaluated. If a suitable candidate is found the scholarship will be awarded.	$47,000	$47,000
University of Canterbury Our goal is to provide our NZ School of Forestry (SOF) graduates with a high standard of knowledge and understanding of harvest planning, harvest system productivity and cost, safety in all aspects of forestry and environmental protection for the landscape we work in. They are consistently identified by the NZ Forest Industry as important skills for young professionals entering the industry. We also look to continue the learning opportunities for those engaged in forestry by sustaining a graduate level programme with quality research outputs, as well as running professional development courses that bring together people from entities including industry, Councils and WorkSafe. Currently the SOF has two staff members that specialises in forest operations and is supported by the post-doc position funded by Forest Growers Levy. The second academic position was recruited based on us proving strong industry financial support. With continued Forest Grower Levy investment, the SOF is able to retain the Post-Doc to support teaching and research, offer graduate	$100,000	$50,000

level scholarships to pursue applied research needs, as well as support undergraduate opportunities over summer.		
Social Media Programme Delivery of Training and Career messages via social media platforms such as Instagram and Facebook.	$30,000	$30,000
Travel and Accommodation Costs for Committee members to attend meetings.	$1,000	$1,000
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$577,000

Transportation & Logistics ($156,000)

Projects within the portfolio allocation	2023 Funding Requested	2023 Funding Approved
Log Truck Safety Council (LTSC) 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.	$20,000	$20,000
Transport Calculator The Transport Committee commissioned SCION to produce a system that can be used to facilitate discussions between forest managers and territorial authorities on roading usage during log transportation. The system is complete. Funding is sought to allow a number of runs to be commissioned from SCION.	$10,000	$10,000
Get real behind the wheel - $25,000 This request is to continue the FOA Transport committee support for driver fatigue and wellbeing awareness. A selected group of drivers will be taken through a customised plan under the "Get Real Behind the Wheel" program designed by the specialists to improve their health and wellbeing and this journey will be used to share tips and key learnings with the wider industry. Social media will be used along with targeted campaigns to roll out based on the cab confessionals. The campaign has 4 key phases. It begins with a discovery and direct engagement with drivers, moves to use of specialists to help educate benefits of healthy eating, nutrition, and exercise.	$25,000	$25,000
Wood is Good 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	$80,000	$40,000

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.		
Wairoa Judicial Appeal Review FOA instigated a Judicial Review but were unsuccessful. We have now filed an Appeal. Hearing date on 13 July 2023.	$50,000	$50,000
Chain Lifting in the Forest Procedure Produce an industry guide for a safe working procedure to lift truck chains in the forest with existing log loader machine. Log is placed parallel to the truck. Driver lays chains over the log and goes to the safe zone. Log is then lifted and over the load. Chains drop from log and driver then secures. It will begin with documentation research to search for existing procedures and then use a professional documentation writer to produce a safe working guide. Photos will be taken in the forest of the step-by-step procedure.	$10,000	$10,000
Travel and Accommodation Costs for Committee members to attend meetings.	$1,000	$1,000
Total for projects ranked within pre-approved portfolio allocation.		$156,000