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Ensis Forest Biosecurity and Protection

FRST Biosecurity Programme

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Background

- The current contract was initiated on 1 October 2003.
- Originally with 4 objectives:

1. Ecological Determinants of Biosecurity Threats to NZ's Forests
2. Border Risk Reduction and Incursion Response
3. Pest and Host Interactions in Forest Environments
4. Biological Control of Forest Weeds and Pests

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Current Situation

- As of 1 July 2005, Objective 2 has been moved wholesale into the Better Border Biosecurity OBI.

- Now 3 Intermediate Outcomes

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Intermediate Outcome 1

- Title: Ecological Determinants of Biosecurity Threats to NZ Forests

- Aim: Research will provide a better understanding of factors that determine invasiveness of new organisms and the susceptibility of our forests.

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Objectives – IO 1

1. Improved strategies for border biosecurity
2. Invasive fungi
3. Ectomycorrhizal relationships

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Intermediate Outcome 2

- Title: Pest and Host Interactions in Forest Environments

- Aim: To reduce the impacts of forest pests and diseases in NZ and to understand the potential impacts of diseases that threaten NZ.

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Objectives IO 2

1. Forest management solutions for pests and pathogens of *Pinus radiata.*
2. Predicted impacts of exotic forest diseases.
3. Descriptions of new forest fungi.

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Intermediate Outcome 3

- Title: Biological Control of Forest Weeds and Pests

- Aim: To provide biological control management solutions to the forest industry.

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Objectives - IO 3

1. Biological control of insects
2. Biological control of weeds
3. Understanding the interactions between biological control agents and their hosts.

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Conclusion

- This FRST funded programme is designed to provide fundamental information for improved biosecurity (IO 1) as well as information that can be utilized to reduce pest impacts (IO 2) as well as control unwanted organisms (IO 3).