



WILDING CONIFER CONTROL

THE OPPORTUNITY

Wilding conifers threaten landscape values, biodiversity and land-use options in the high country. It is estimated they affect about 800 000 hectares of the South Island and in the order of 300 000 hectares of the North Island.

Spread may occur from areas of existing wildings or from economically important plantations. Some of these species can easily spread seeds more than 10km – they certainly don't respect property boundaries.

The Wilding Conifer Management Group therefore includes a wide-ranging group of interests, from land managers to researchers, regulators and the forestry industry.

In June 2012, the Group agreed a set of priorities for wilding control, and in 2013 initiated a project that is being co-funded by the SFF to progress this.

The project will:

- » set up national monitoring and reporting on wilding conifers
- » assess control regimes
- » investigate how to minimise the wild spread of the commercially important species, Douglas-fir.

RESULTS

This project has just started and is due to finish in June 2016.

AT A GLANCE

SFF project	13/031 Initiatives that support a national wilding conifer strategy
SFF investment	\$269 425 (GST inclusive)
Other contributors	Wilding Conifer Management Group, Scion Research
Total project value (including in-kind contributions): \$480 700 (GST inclusive)	

PROJECT PART-FUNDED BY THE SUSTAINABLE FARMING FUND

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