



Budget 2010-11

**Building for NSW's future**

## FOREST RESOURCES

### **Budget delivers 13 million trees for NSW**

The Keneally Government will invest approximately \$23 million in the State's plantation estate and produce around 13 million seedlings to increase timber supplies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Minister for Forest Resources Paul McLeay said the Government is committed to supporting the timber industry and investing in wood supply for future generations.

"The Keneally Government recognises the importance of the State's \$2 billion forestry industry; it provides important jobs, produces timber products and assists in countering carbon emissions," Mr McLeay said.

"Our forests provide important resources to build our homes, schools and other important infrastructure for NSW.

"The forest industry supports more than 20,000 jobs, about half of which are in regional NSW.

"NSW is fortunate to have more than 650 State Forests, which cover an area of more than 2.4 million hectares, but we're always looking to plant more trees and that's exactly what we're doing this year."

Minister McLeay said the 13 million seedlings include:

- 10.5 million Softwood trees in plantations around Bathurst, Batlow, Blayney, Bombala, Glen Innes, Nundle, Tumbarumba, Tumut and Walcha.
- 1.5 million Eucalyptus hardwood trees in plantations close to cities and towns near Coffs Harbour, Grafton, Newcastle and Taree.
- 800,000 trees for retail nurseries and customers including farmers, local councils and Catchment Management Authorities; and
- 400,000 warm climate pine trees for public and private plantations on the North Coast near Bonalbo, Grafton, Lawrence, Urbenville, and Whiporie.

"In the last financial year Forests NSW planted around 10.2 million seedlings which covered more than 9,200 hectares," Mr McLeay said.

The Keneally Government is also investing around \$8 million a year in forestry research and development, to remain up-to-date with innovations and ensure decision making has a scientific focus.

This will be invested in areas including:

- \$2.9 million for Industry & Investment NSW researchers
- \$1.5 million for a Forests NSW research and technology program for tree and plantation improvement
- \$300,000 for plantation silvicultural research
- \$300,000 for a levy to Forest and Wood Products Australia for industry research and marketing programs.

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