



Forest health in a changing climate: How to advance our knowledge and management

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The State Centre of Excellence for Climate Change, Woodland and Forest Health is dedicated to provide up-to-date and scientifically sound science and information to underpin the protection, health and sustainable management of Western Australia's unique woodland and forest systems in a rapidly changing climate. This Centre is build around four distinct research programs including a range of natural and social sciences. One of the key goals of the Centre is to develop common research questions within an interdisciplinary framework. This is a necessary step to effectively work together and combine research results for further research development. However, differences in research traditions, not just between the social and the natural sciences but among the various sub-disciplines as well, make this a challenging task. The aim of this research is to provide guidelines and a framework that will help facilitate the interdisciplinary research approach, enhancing the quality of output and implementation of the results into future policy and conservation management practices. Broadening interdisciplinary teamwork to a transdisciplinary effort that includes researchers and decision makers at different levels will be a further step to take. A preliminary framework will be presented and future steps and challenges will be discussed.