



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **ForestrySA School Photography Competition – winners announced!**

From creatively entitled “Skidder on the Job” to “One Little Tree in a Big World”, ForestrySA received a variety of fantastic photographs for its School Photography Competition.

In July ForestrySA sent out the call to all junior photographers across the Limestone Coast to take their digital cameras to the forests and get snapping to help showcase all the facets of our local forestry industry in this, the International Year of Forests 2011.

After great deliberation, Judges awarded 12 year olds Sally Nielsen from Reidy Park Primary School first prize in the primary school category for her “Lord of the Rings” photograph, and Natalie Thomson from Nangwarry Primary School second prize for her “Forestry of Australia” photograph.

High School student Annie Breen from Allendale East Area School took out first prize for her “A reflection into our future” photograph in the secondary school category, and coming in a close second was Bradley Martin from Naracoorte High School for his “The Pines Above” photograph.

The judging panel consisting of a local photographer, a forester and a Riddoch Art Galley member were thrilled with the calibre of entries because they clearly demonstrated the value of our forests to the local community. “It was great to see students get out into our forests and recognise the many benefits they offer our community beyond just wood”.

As the winner of the ForestrySA School Photography Competition, the winners and representatives from their schools were invited to the ForestrySA Corporate Office in Mount Gambier for an afternoon tea and presented with cheques from ForestrySA Chief Executive Islay Robertson.

Mr Robertson said “The current market of reduced housing starts and unfair and negative media about timber and paper from native forests is felt all the way to here in the south east. It is great ForestrySA can sponsor positive news about the plantation and the forest processing industries in a community so heavily linked to the forests”.

Each first prize recipient was awarded \$400 for the winning school, and \$100 for the student, whilst second prize was \$200 for the school and \$50 for the student.

The winning photographs can be viewed on ForestrySA’s website at [www.forestrysa.com.au](http://www.forestrysa.com.au)

Thanks to the generosity of AUSTimber, entrants to the competition are still in the running to take out the AUSTimber's People's Choice Award and win an extra \$250 in each age group. The People's Choice Award will be voted by you, the public. Visit the Schools Photographic Exhibition at the Riddoch Art Gallery from 23 to 31 March 2012, and at the AUSTimber site from 29 to 31 March 2012 to cast your vote. The winners will be announced on the final day of AUSTimber on Saturday March 31 2012.

For more information about AUSTimber 2012 visit [www.austimber2012.com.au](http://www.austimber2012.com.au)

**ENDS**

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