For Immediate Release

**Māori Climate Commissioner congratulates funding for Science Challenges 2018**

The Māori Climate Commissioner, Donna Awatere Huata, congratulates the successful funding of science projects for Deep South, Resilience and GNS.

"GNS gaining $11.2 million for three new multi-year research projects in the latest round of the Government’s Endeavour Fund alongside two Marsden Fund projects and the Resilience Challenge receiving $40million to research how New Zealand can bounce back from natural disasters are necessary and important investments when climate change is becoming such an important challenge", the Commissioner said.

"These science investments, including last years Deep South National Science Challenge,  allow us to face the facts on climate change which are so often muddied by corporate interests. It is this future faced funding model that needs to be expanded and the research adopted if we are to successfully adapt to the challenges climate change poses to us as a society and economy".

"This is crucial work by dedicated scientists to explore and help all New Zealander's navigate the steep problems the future brings us from a heating planet”.

“Congratulations are also due to government for investing a further $422 million into the National Science Challenges. Although it may seem a large sum, it will indeed return on the investment in helping our country better adapt to the environmental and climate crises ahead."

**Donna Awatere Huata**

**Māori Climate Commissioner**

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