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CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN FORESTAL

Madrid, 2 February 2009

Dear Sirs

Motivation for the present letter is to inform you about my interest and my favourable decision to participating as scientific consultant in the Pinea project that Dr Luis Fontes has applied for funding. From a scientific point of view, proposed Pinea project can be considered a substantial advance in the knowledge of the dynamics of growth and production of stone pine stands in Portugal, taking also into account a flexible perspective of global change. Results of the project will fill a significant gap related with the actual absence of process based model focusing on Mediterranean species with non timber main productions, as are the cones of stone pine.

Within the context of the project I could collaborate in such aspects related with trial design and installation, statistical analysis of data and modelling building. In that sense, I have huge experience in working with empirical modelling of forest dynamics and fruit production, as well as silvicultural practices in Pinus pinea stands in Spain. This experience could be useful for the main objectives of the project, in order to identify common patterns of species dynamics in comparing Spanish and Portuguese stands.

Nevertheless, given the high interest of the project, and the large scientific capacity of both the principal researcher (Dr. Luis Fontes) and the rest of the team, it would be a great pleasure for me to cooperate in the Pinea project.

Yours sincerely,

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