Workshop on TIMBER RECOVERY AND WOOD UTILIZATION RESPONSE PLAN (WIND EVENTS AND DISTURBANCES)

A hands-on tool for planning for and responding to multiple-level wind disasters at local, state, regional, and national levels. Framework for better coordination among the various federal, state, tribal and local government agencies, and with partnering organizations within the forestry, arboricultural, disaster response, and wood utilization sectors.
2001 National Energy Policy and White House Taskforce
(required DOI to establish a Biomass Initiative; cooperate with DOE)

DOI/DOE/USDA MOU
(Agencies to coordinate policies to encourage the use of woody biomass)

Bureau Biomass Strategic Plans
BLM, USFS, BIA, FWS
(Agencies set goals and performance measures for biomass removal, establish demonstration sites, and agency “buy biomass” programs)

Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003
(Title II is Biomass; implementing regulations being written by “Team” members)

President’s Healthy Forests Initiative
(Presidential initiative to expedite forest and rangeland health while protecting communities from catastrophic wildfires)

Biomass R&D Act
(estabishes Board to oversee Fed Biomass R&D- approves grants, sets policies)

Biomass R&D Board
(Executive level board, staffed by a FACA Technical Advisory Committee; oversees the Woody Biomass Utilization Group)

National Biofuels Action Plan
(Integration of all federal activities in biofuels, including woody biomass)

National Fire Plan
-directs Bureaus to develop and expand markets for small diameter wood and woody biomass from fuels projects

10-Year Implementation Plan
(signed by DOI, USDA and Western Governors)

2001 National Energy Policy and White House Taskforce

Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003

President’s Healthy Forests Initiative

Biomass Teams
USFS WBUT, DOI, Katrina, WGA, 25x’25, etc
The Biomass Research and Development Board (the Board), co-chaired by the DOE and the USDA, is responsible for coordinating Federal activities for the purpose of promoting the use of biobased industrial products.

http://www.biomass.govtools.us/about/biomassBoard.asp

The Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) is responsible for providing guidance to the Biomass Board on the technical focus of the Initiative.

http://www.biomass.govtools.us/about/advisoryCommittee.asp
WBUG Goals and Objectives

• Implement the Policy Principles of the Woody Biomass MOU
• Coordinate, plan, enable, and encourage utilization of woody biomass
• Serve as technical and policy advisors on woody biomass utilization
• Provide information clearing house
• Collaboration with external organizations and partners
Response Plan Objectives

This initial proposal focuses on forest and woodland debris, but the Plan will recognize the distinct characteristics and challenges of:

- Urban versus rural tree and vegetative debris
- Non-industrial versus private industrial lands
- Government and tribal properties
- Federal versus regional authorities
- State-to-state versus state or local issues and coordination
Response Plan Objectives

The Plan will identify:

- the roles and responsibilities of the varied branches of the governments involved in planning, preparing, response and recovery;
- the potential for state and local governments to streamline permitting processes and allow for flexibility in permits and/or temporary authorizations; and,
- the authorities associated with managing wastes and natural resources.
The Product will identify:

- General authorities
- Interactions and coordination between appropriate federal agencies
- Government agency and program contacts
- Non-government entity contacts
- Responsibility delineation and organization alternatives
- Suggestions on preparing and executing a response at the state, regional or local level
- Scenario and contingency planning check lists
- Suggested action items for involved parties
- Recommendations
- Background information
Response Plan Objectives

The Plan will not address contaminated or hazardous material because of:

- separation issues
- time constraints for requisite expedient removal operations

To the degree that separation is possible, practical and economically feasible, clean wood recovered from building materials should be targeted for recycling or beneficial reuse.
POTENTIAL COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN (Page 1 of 3):

- Quality or usability of downed timber and debris
- Comprehensive cost-benefit analyses of disposal methods vs utilization of wood biomass; salvage studies
- Identify gaps and deficiencies in policies and procedures that are barriers to timber recovery and biomass utilization.
- Examine FEMA’s assistance programs and US Army Corps of Engineer’s roles and responsibilities for clearance, removal and disposal of debris under Emergency Support Function 3.
- Contractor issues, barriers, and possible incentives
- Methods for determining temporary site locations
- Providing for greater flexibility and cooperation of entities in response and recovery efforts
POTENTIAL COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN (Page 2 of 3):

- State environmental & emergency management agencies, and State Foresters may want to provide state-specific advice, regulations and policies in Appendix
- Coordination and organization
- Roles and responsibilities
- Damage assessments, inventories, and economic analyses
- Legal and regulatory issues
- Logistics
- Communications
- Operations and procedures
- Market development
- Authorities and expectations
- Funds and financing
POTENTIAL COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN (Page 3 of 3):

- Government actions
- Pre-incident identification of wet storage, dry storage areas
- Potential utilization sites, existing and potential markets for woody biomass
- Contaminated woody biomass sorting, transportation, and staging at disposal areas, and related issues of assessment, safety, handling and permitting
- Links and resources to support communities in identifying and contacting:
  - Logging and debris removal contractors
  - Small and large wood industries and markets
  - Business support (loans, grants, development opportunities)
Response Plan Tools

“Virtual Plan Book” located on the WBUG Web site, links to/from State and other Partners, and also available on CD-ROM.

The Plan will provide Web links and will include appended detail information, forms and suggested templates.
Web Tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Type I</th>
<th>Type II</th>
<th>Type III</th>
<th>Type IV</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMMENTS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Caterpillar is used as an example only. The major difference for D10R WHA (Waste Handling) – Cat 3412E Turbo Charged Diesel is that it contains a larger blade and protection guards to prevent landfill type debris from tangling its drives.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A moment of Zen Forest
“It will be the responsibility of the partnership to finalize the scope, content, and publication of the Plan.”