Distributed Bioenergy: Achieving Forestry and Community Goals

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Interagency Woody Biomass Utilization Group

Vision Statement:

The Federal Working Group promotes and supports the utilization of woody biomass products and residues from forest and woodland health, management and restoration treatments wherever environmentally, economically and legally appropriate.

Forest growth greatly exceeds removals on NFS lands in the Interior West

Forest Growth and Removals

National Forests of the Interior West - 1920-1997



Source: Forest Resources of the United States, 1997; GTR-NC-219. USDA-Forest Service, 2001.

The Size and Intensity of Wildfire Has Increased In Recent Years



When dense forests combine with extended drought, the ecological stress sets the stage for increased insect epidemics and wildfire



Western Pine Bark Beetle Damage -- Prescott National Forest, Arizona

For most of human history, *renewables* were predominant energy sources.

Biomass, Water, Wind, Solar, Geothermal



U.S. Energy Consumption, By Energy Source 1850-2007



Today, there is a resurgence of interest in renewables.

>Oil Prices
>National Security
>Climate Change
>Agriculture Policy

Wood is an obvious feedstock choice for biomass energy in some regions.



The Role of Renewable Energy Consumption in the Nation's Energy Supply, 2008

Total = 101.545 Quadrillion Btu

Total = 6.813 Quadrillion Btu



Distributed Bioenergy: Achieving Forestry and Community Goals – Panel Members

Moderator—Ed Gee, FS

- 1. Why are we doing these bioenergy facilities: Marcia Patton-Mallory, WFLC-FS
- 2. The process to get to the 113 proposed bioenergy facilities: Faline Haven-FS
- 3. The next steps to secure future bioenergy facilities -challenges and opportunities: Donna Perla- EPA
- 4. Sustainability considerations for bioenergy from forests: Henry Bastian DOI



Accomplishment's with Bioenergy Facilities

- Meeting Executive Order 13423
- Decreasing fossil fuel dependency
- Decreasing wildfires through hazardous fuel reduction
- Decreasing thermal and CHP costs
- Decreasing GHG through wood substitution
- Decreasing our CO2 emissions climate change
- Increasing Forest Health Restoration
- Increasing National Security

Thank You







We can decrease the effect of drought, pests, and wildfires

- Strategically placing these bioenergy facilities in areas close to the raw material
- Decrease the many large fires that are in diseased and droughtstressed forests.

