# **Cohesive Wildfire Strategy** Northern Blue Mountain Pilot Project









#### Current

#### Blue Mountain Pilot Project Vision

Landscapes

Wildfire

Connecticies



Responding

to Wildfire

Creating Fire Adaptive Communities

# 1. Strengthen interagency collaboration on fire suppression and management.

- 2. Develop interagency fire fighting capacity tiered to fire danger levels.
- 3. Develop interagency approach to fire severity staffing.
- 4. Develop a more comprehensive Fire Danger Operating Plan.
- 5. Explore joint funding of critical resources, protection exchanges.

## Responding to Wildfire

Creating Fire Adaptive Communities

- **1.** Develop more comprehensive CWPPs.
- 2. Develop "all agency" fire suppression plans for WUIs.
- 3. Utilize risk assessment models in developing an "all lands" approach to fuels treatment.
- 4. Accelerate fuels treatment in and around WUIs by improving economics of biomass .
- 5. Increase UAS of forest and wildfire management (prescribed and natural).

Restoring and maintaining resilient landscapes

- 1. Increase coordination and risk assessment modeling on private/public fuels treatment.
- 2. Improve efficiencies and economics of forest biomass removal and marketing.
- 3. Support large scale forest management projects on Federal lands.
- 4. Prioritize management of forests at risk of uncharacteristically severe fire.
- 5. Gain UAS for managed wildfire (prescribed and natural)

Restoring and maintaining resilient landscapes **Biomass Utilization:** 

<u>Why</u>

- Stretch fuel treatment \$
- Increase local energy independence
- Provide rural jobs
- Decrease smoke in the air

#### <u>How</u>

- Foster market for biomass heat
- Invest in project feasibility
- Increase supply through collaboration
- Connect suppliers to markets
- Improve efficiency of biomass removal

# Momentum is building...

- **1.** Project leader is in place and coordinating actions.
- 2. Simulations are identifying areas for improving wildfire response.
- 3. Workshops and outreach on biomass feasibility reaching many partners and interested parties.
- 4. Additional fuels management projects leveraged and focused on CWS.
- 5. Border areas raised as top priority for fuels management focus.
- 6. Connections made with collaboratives for restoration and forest management within a context of CWS.
- 7. Summit meeting this month to continue raising awareness.

## Challenges...

- 1. Prioritizing CWS actions into an already overflowing existing workload
- 2. Engaging all partners in a significant way in CWS efforts
- 3. Matching raised expectations with limited CWS funds
- 4. Fire by its nature in this geo-region creates conflict

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Together, improving our readiness to respond to fire, and to create fire adapted communities and resilient landscapes.



Fair



