

## COLORADO WOOD UTILIZATION AND MARKETING PROGRAM UPDATE

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In June the *Colorado Wood Utilization and Marketing Program* (CO Wood) was asked by the *Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership* to report on current and proposed CO Wood program delivery and activities that directly support the *FRFTP Roundtable* recommendations. CO Wood assistance is delivered in one four program areas; (1) technical assistance, (2) applied research, (3) education and extension, and (4) product and market development. On going and proposed program delivery that directly supports recommendation 5 of the *FRFTP Roundtable* are listed below.

11 current activities in one of our four program areas directly support recommendation 5 of the roundtable and 3 activities are proposed in 2006-2007 to provide further support to the FRFTP Roundtable Recommendations.

FRFTP Roundtable Recommendation 5:

***Increase commercial utilization of woody biomass, especially bioheating fuel for institutional buildings.***

***Action:***

*Colorado Wood/CSFS will act as a marketplace to bring together potential bioheating suppliers (such as private landowners and technology service providers) and consumers (such as public building planners).*

***Strategy:***

- *Market and expand use of the Colorado Forest Products program and foster participation in the Colorado Proud program/website to match forest resources with consumer needs.*

Current CO Wood Program Delivery in Support of Recommendation 5:

Technical Assistance:

**1. Biomass Supply Assessments**

A majority of Front Range counties have been included in this GIS based format. Reports can be generated as requested. Supply assessments are also being conducted for individual jurisdictions. Funding to continue and maintain the GIS database is being pursued.

**2. Technical and Financial Facility Heating Feasibility**

CO Wood staff and the Governors Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) are available to provide initial feasibilities on the financial and technical merits of facility heating projects. In conjunction with the biomass supply database, a "Go or No Go" decision for more comprehensive feasibility studies can be made utilizing CO Wood expertise.

**3. Listing of Facility Heating Projects**

A listing of current biomass facility heating projects and their status is maintained. General information can be distributed on the status of projects. Approximately a dozen projects are being pursued in Colorado with CO Wood and OEMC support.

## Education and Extension

**4. Facility Heating Compact Disk**

An interactive compact disk is available based on a conference held in Grand Junction in January 2006. Disk includes presentations on biomass utilization, technical and financial feasibility and value, biomass supply and availability, financing and funding. The disk has been distributed to all CSFS district and project offices.

**5. Wood Pellet Opportunities Compact Disk**

A compact disk containing reference material on wood pellet manufacturing and market opportunities is available on request.

**6. Bidder's and Contracting Workshop**

Training sessions for businesses in accessing, bidding, and being awarded federal and state contracting opportunities. Emphasis on newer authorities such as *Good Neighbor*, and *Stewardship Contracting*.

## Product and Market Development

**7. Forestry Service and Forest Products Industry Database**

A Microsoft Access® database is in development that will facilitate the linkages between treatment opportunities and businesses and contractors. The database will provide details on services provided, equipment capacities, wood products and markets, and species utilized. Comprehensive queries can be produced. A draft of the database will be completed and available for review (CSFS Annual Meeting) in October 20

**8. Grant Writing Assistance**

Companies and communities have received direct assistance in identifying, writing, and submitting grants for equipment investment and equipment demonstrations

**9. Business Facilitation**

Participated in discussions to expand product and market opportunities in biomass utilization in Jefferson County with Forest Energy Corporation, and assessing potential for engineered wood with Huber Engineered Wood.

## Applied Research

**10. Selected Publications**

Wood Use in Colorado at the Turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Opportunities for Making Wood Products from Small Diameter Trees in Colorado

**11. BTU/Energy Content for selected Colorado Tree Species**

Determining the energy or BTU content for biomass heating application of conventional and non-traditional wood species

Proposed CO Wood Activities to Support Recommendation 5:

1. Conduct and Host Facility Heating Conference along Front Range in 2007.
2. Review, Update, and Improve Colorado Forest Products Marketing Campaign.
3. Conduct Front Range Training Session for contractors on responding and developing competitive proposals in response to agency RFP's and Stewardship Contracting opportunities in the fall of 2006.