

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

Thursday, December 7, 2023, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

**Capitola City Hall
420 Capitola Avenue
Capitola CA 95010**

Hybrid Meeting Information:

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410707406>

Meeting ID: 824 1070 7406

One tap mobile

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+16699006833,,82410707406# US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 824 1070 7406

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410707406>

Please note: Members/alternates attending remotely cannot vote or count toward a quorum unless arranged in advance with “just cause.”

Members Present: Justin Cummings (County, chair), Jessica Kahn (Cap), Jacob Guth (County, citizen rep), Will Smith (Wat), Tami Stolzenhaller (Wat, alt.) Leslie O’Malley (SC alt).

Members/Alternates Absent: Felipe Hernandez (County, vice-chair), Alexander Pedersen (Cap, alt), Scott Newsome (SC), Bob Nelson (SC), Rene Golder (SC, alt), Allan Timms (SV), Eduardo Montesino (Wat), Danielle Green (Wat alt.).

Task Force Staff: Beau Hawksford (County), Kasey Kolassa (County), Darcy Pruitt (County).

Agency Staff: Courtney Lindberg (Wat.), Christina Horvat (County), Mary Ann LoBalbo (County), Tiffany Martinez (County) Lana Martinez-Davis (County-online).

Guests: Dennis Webb (Big Creek Lumber), Susan Petrie (Peninsula Open Space Trust [POST]-online), Desert Waters (POST-online), Rich Sampson (CalFire-online), Clifford Eagle Eye Escobar (Chairman, Esselen Tribe Department of Natural Resources-online), Dylan Skybrook (Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network-online), Laura Chain (CalRecycle online), Colida Johnson (GreenWaste Recovery-online), Matthew Lyles (Grey Bears-online) Claudia Villalta-Mejia (Environmental Innovations-online) Jaz (online), Trish Pinella (online), Lauren Korth (POST-online), Javier Pedroza (Grey Bears-online), Emma Western (online).

Meeting Minutes

1) Welcome and Quorum Verification

- Quorum present, Chair Cummings started meeting at 3:00 PM.

2) Oral communications – Public:

- No public comments were made to the commission.

3) Oral communications - Task Force members/alternates

- Chair Cummings raised a constituent’s question whether North Coast County residents can use the City of Santa Cruz Dimeo Lane Resource Recovery Facility. Commission staff member Kasey Kolassa provided a brief response that North County residents are allowed to use the Dimeo Lane facility if they pay a 28% out of service area surcharge over the posted rates paid by City residents. Leslie O’Malley confirmed this surcharge represents the amount not paid by

County residents that City residents pay through other fees and rates not charged at the gate.

4) October 5, 2023 meeting minutes approved (Attachment A)

- Member Will Smith moved to approve the October meeting minutes, Alternate Tami Stolzenhaller seconded the motion. Vote resulted in unanimous approval of the October meeting minutes.

5) Guest presentation – Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network:

- Desert Waters Peninsula Open Space Trust [POST]), Clifford Eagle Eye Escobar (Ventana Forestry), Rich Sampson (Cal Fire), Dennis Webb (Big Creek Lumber) and Susie Petrie (POST) delivered a presentation discussing the problems related to excess forest wood waste. Other Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network members were available to answer questions. Network members explained problematic excess woody biomass that make local forests more vulnerable to future fires and less resilient even after the CZU fire. The problems include standing deadwood that was not completely consumed in the CZU fire, overstocked second growth forests with too many trees, and vigorous regrowth that all provide abundant fuel for future fires. Network members discussed the problems related to unmerchantable wood that must be removed from the forests to create shaded firebreaks and a healthy, resilient forest. The main problems are the large volume of wood that needs to be removed from the forest to increase resilience and the lack of cost-effective solution that increase fire safety without increasing air quality impacts. Network members described the current management strategies that they are pursuing to reduce fuels and limit air quality impacts. Network members also announced their Regional Woody Biomass Utilization Strategy study to identify best practices for long term woody biomass management. The study will investigate many strategies to manage woody biomass with a goal to identify alternatives and make recommendations on the best utilization strategies. Network members presentation included a discussion to petition the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to change Clean Air Act Title V permitting rules for woody biomass carbonators. These machines are designed to reduce air quality emissions over pile burning while producing biochar, a soil amendment and water filter materials. However, under the Clean Air Act, carbonators require permitting similar to those needed to operate a power plant. **(see presentation slides and summary at Attachment A).**
- Chair Cummings and other members asked questions to clarify parts of the presentation. They were interested in understanding the biomass utilization study timeline. D Waters responded that the study had just begun. Task Force staff agreed to provide contact information to the Committee Chair for further follow-up on the study. Members were curious about the cost to purchase a carbonator (C.E.E Escobar quoted \$1.5M/carbonator), and asked questions about permitting restriction for working with the Air District and in the Coastal Zone. Will Smith asked questions about Title V air permits. S. Petrie described the costs, delay, and monitoring requirements related to Title V and explained that similar equipment [curtain burners] owned by CalFire has a similar exception and does not require the Title V permit.
- Chair Cummings asked for public comments – No comments received from the public.
- Chair Cummings brought the request to support the EPA waiver request back to the commission for consideration: W. Smith moved that the commission support the EPA Letter requesting a permit waiver in concept with final approval based on local consideration of the language drafted for delivery to US EPA. J. Guth seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Staff Follow up:** Network Members will send proposed language to Task Force staff for delivery to each member jurisdiction for consideration.

6) **Five Year Plan Update:**

- Staff presented completed final draft Five-Year Review/Report to commission members and discussed next steps for review and approval locally before required submission to CalRecycle in March 2024.
- Staff indicated that it had received a response from CalRecycle on questions related to covering the new diversion requirements added by SB 1383 in the Review Report. CalRecycle directed staff to use the existing AB 939 template and do not include consideration of SB 1383 requirements.
- Chair asked for comments/questions from public and then members – no comments received.
- **Staff Follow up:** Staff will poll partner agency staff members for comments on the final draft prior to next Task Force meeting to ensure agencies have adequate time to review and comment.

7) **Task Force 2024 meeting schedule:** Alter 2024 meeting schedule to meet 5-Year Plan Update statutory approval requirements.

- Members conferred with staff the need to alter the 2024 quarterly meeting schedule to allow the time to approve five-year review report before submission to CalRecycle. Members ask staff whether a fifth meeting will be needed or a simple reschedule the March meeting to February. Staff indicated that there did not appear to be a necessity for an extra meeting, but should they select to reschedule the March meeting to February they could always add a fifth meeting later in the year if needed.
- Chair Cummings asked for public comments – No comments received.
- L. O'Malley moved to reschedule the March 7th meeting to February 8, 2024 and leave the rest of the 2024 meeting schedule unchanged. W. Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- The 2024 meeting schedule will be on the following Thursdays: February 8th, June 6th, September 5th, and December 5th.

8) **Staff update and Commission discussion** – Disaster Debris Management and Regional Collaboration.

- Staff provided a brief update on disaster debris management based on outreach to other jurisdictions that have also suffered. Staff has collected several plans and has identified FEMA guidance for the preparation of a Debris Monitoring Plan that will allow the jurisdictions to collect the data needed to ensure costs for debris removal can be recovered from State or Federal agencies when disasters occur.
- Chair Cummings asked for public comments – No comments received.
- Members discussed and agreed that having a streamlined Debris Monitoring Plan that can be implemented to improve cost recovery would be helpful.

9) **Staff presentation** – SB 54 Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act.

- Staff presented slides to summarize Senate Bill 54, which is intended to reduce single use plastic packaging and increase recyclability and compostability of materials sold into California. The slides provided an overview of program milestones to increase the reuse of

materials and outlined the producer responsibility organization's responsibilities to create a more circular economy. (see **Attachment B**).

- 10) **Senate Bill 54 Staff Presentation and Commission Study Session –**
 - Staff provided a brief overview of the differences between our existing environmentally acceptable packaging ordinances currently in use by each local jurisdiction.
 - SB 54 is likely to change the materials included in these ordinances over time.
 - Commissioners discussed aligning local jurisdiction's ordinances to provide consistency across the County. Challenges would be to align environmental policy across all five jurisdictions. Benefits would be to reduce confusion within the county as a whole, to increase legislative cooperation and educational messaging throughout the county as a whole.
 - Commissioners discussed the thinking behind the current ordinances to reduce contamination in the environment when materials are disposed improperly. Issues to consider include: durables for dine in, no PFAS in disposables, encourage compostables, consistent rules throughout local jurisdictions, consistent messaging across jurisdictions.
 - Commissioners recommended staff develop a working group to monitor SB 54 rulemaking to ensure local jurisdictions are informed on developments and can participate in regulation developments as needed. Working group should also develop recommendations for consistent local environmentally acceptable packaging ordinances and outreach.
- 11) **Staff presentation – SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Update**
 - Staff provided a brief recap of the many Senate Bill 1383 compliance requirements that local jurisdictions must implement [universal waste & organics collection services, edible food recovery, organics capacity planning, organics and food recovery education, organics recycling and procurement requirements, contamination monitoring].
 - Staff outlined the areas where local jurisdictions have agreed to partner to fulfill SB 1383 compliance requirements [Food recovery partner survey; Capacity planning reporting; Developing bilingual outreach materials; Tier 1&2 outreach and onboarding; Tier 2 edible food recovery training; and Technology to improve edible food recovery communication, collection and reporting.]
 - Jurisdictions agreed to support this local collaboration using funds proportional to their population from CalRecycle SB1383 grants [Capitola: \$10,091; Scotts Valley: \$11,755; Santa Cruz: \$56,156; County: \$131,747; Watsonville: \$51,366] (see **Attachment C**)
- 12) **Legislative Update**
 - Staff provided a brief overview of the solid waste bills that were passed into law and reviewed the bills that are still under consideration.
- 13) Call for next meeting agenda items: Five Year Plan Review, SB54 Update.
- 14) Meeting Adjourned at 4:55pm



FOREST WOOD WASTE:
*Challenges and opportunities in
managing our region's forest biomass*

Santa Cruz County Integrated Waste
Management Task Force

December 7, 2023

San Vicente Redwoods,
Hazard Tree Removal, 2022

Presenters:

| | |
|--|---|
| DESERT WATERS REDWOODS PROGRAM MANAGER, PENINSULA OPEN SPACE TRUST (POST) | TOM LITTLE BEAR NASON CHAIRMAN, ESSELEN TRIBE OWNER, VENTANA FORESTRY |
| SUSIE PETRIE STEWARDSHIP PROJECT MANAGER, PENINSULA OPEN SPACE TRUST (POST) | CLIFF EAGLE EYE ESCOBAR CHAIRMAN, ESSELEN TRIBE- DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES |
| DENNIS WEBB CHIEF FORESTER, BIG CREEK LUMBER | RICH SAMPSON CZU DIVISION CHIEF, CAL FIRE |

DYLAN SKYBROOK
MANAGER, SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS STEWARDSHIP NETWORK



Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network



Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network





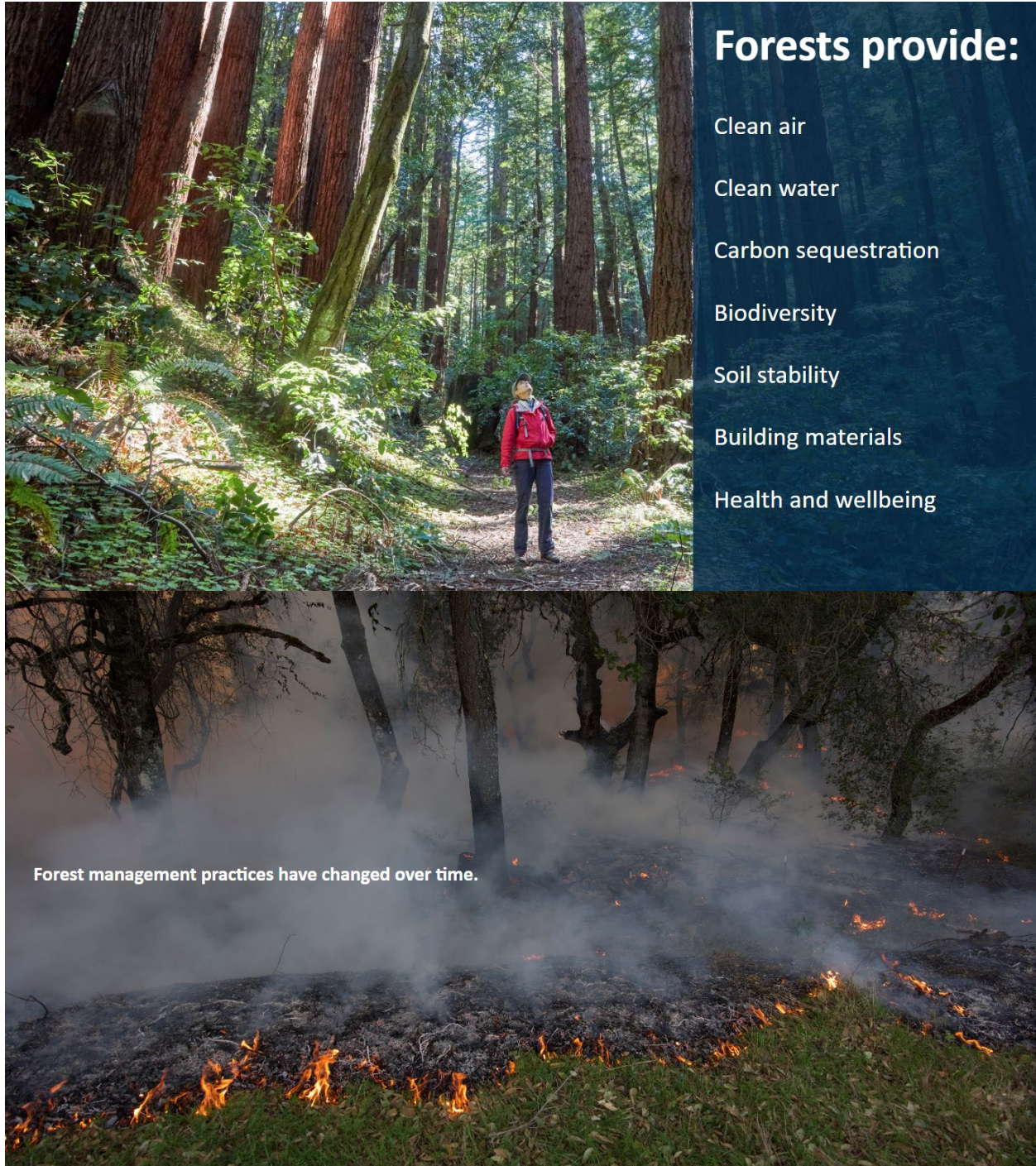
We are facing a crisis.

The forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains are at risk, threatening the resilience of our local ecosystem and our human communities.

Land managers across the region - public agencies, private timberland owners, etc. - are racing to create resilient forests, but are repeatedly facing a bottle neck about what to do with the wood waste.

What we'll cover:

- What is forest wood waste? Why are we producing it?
- Current efforts to process wood waste
- Obstacles to achieving results at scale
- Opportunities for future partnership



Our forests evolved with frequent, low-intensity fires. Indigenous management – used fire to manage fuels, reduce the smaller trees and ground level plants (also known as fuel). Large trees flourished. Smaller diameter trees were not as prevalent. Moving from indigenous forest management to industrial forest management (clear cutting, etc.) has lead to current conditions: impaired/overstocked forests.



Post clear cutting, second growth forests are now overstocked. Even though this looks pretty, it's bad for forest health as a forest fire risk.

CZU Lightning Complex Fire

August 2020

- Over 86,500 acres burned
- Several ignition points made intervention very challenging, response relied heavily on pre-fire low fuel areas to modify fire behavior (roads, fuel breaks, etc.)
- Active fire for 37 days, with a huge expansion on the second night
- Created a mosaic of burn severity: 43% of footprint at moderate to high severity, 57% at low to very low severity



August 2020 - Photo credit: Teddy Miller

86,000 acres burned including 36,000 acres of managed timber land.

Post-CZU Fire forests



CZU Fire created a whole new set of problems. Lots of dead wood, vigorous regrowth. Lot's of fuel which has not reduced the risk of fire.



Thriving forest ecosystems require management:

- Fuels reduction (Prescribed fire, grazing, mechanical thinning)
- Selective timber harvest
- Post-fire clean up and hazard removal

This management produces woody biomass with very limited outlets.

<https://spranch.calpoly.edu/shaded-fuel-break-lessons-learned-post-wildfire-san-vicente-redwoods>

Forests need management.



State of California:

- CA Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan, Forest Carbon Plan, and Task Force
- Providing funding for forest health and pilot projects
- Incentivizing regions to develop solutions

<https://wildfiretaskforce.org/action-plan/>

Government context



December 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Attachment A: Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network Presentation Slides and Summary



160 tons of decked logs

Recent Fuel Reduction Projects at San Vicente Redwoods:

Warrenella Shaded Fuel Break (360 acres) (mixed burn intensity) → 20,000 tons

Empire Grade Shaded Fuel Break (60 acres) (low burn severity) → 1,000 tons

Deadman Ridgeline Fuel Break (52 acres) (moderate burn severity) → 4,000 tons

25,000 tons from 472 acres

Partial list of forest management work in progress that will wrap up next summer on POST's 9,000 acre property. These projects will generate 25,000 tons of woody biomass. If we treated the entire 9,000 acre property the amount would be 475,000 tons. The POST property represents just 10% of the CZU fire footprint.



Woody biomass is generated by many projects, not just forest management residue. Four main sources are: Forestry management, Storm debris, Urban forestry, and Construction debris.

**Current
options for
dealing with
wood waste**



Two types of equipment are now in use to reduce woody biomass in the CZU burn scar: Air Curtain Burners (produce ash) and Corbonators (produce biochar). Both pieces of equipment reduce air quality impacts over open pile burning. Biochar can be used as a filter materials and a soil amendment.

Costs Comparison of Existing Ways to Management Forest Wood Waste

| Method | Cost per Acre of High Burn Severity | Fire Risk on the Land | Emissions Impact Compared to Wildfire |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Leave logs on site | \$0 | No improvement | No reduction |
| Chip and leave on site | \$10,000 | No improvement | No reduction |
| Chip and bring to county facility | \$29,000 | Improvement | Reduction |
| Pile Burning | \$20,000 | Improvement | No reduction |
| Air Curtain Burner Incineration (1) | \$30,000 | Improvement | Significant reduction |
| Carbonator Incineration (1) | \$27,000 | Improvement | Very Significant Reduction |

Comparison of woody biomass management practices (costs/fire risk reduction/emission impacts).



Challenges are big and complicated

Very limited markets for wood and wood byproducts

Biomass processing on-site seasonally limited and limits potential byproducts market

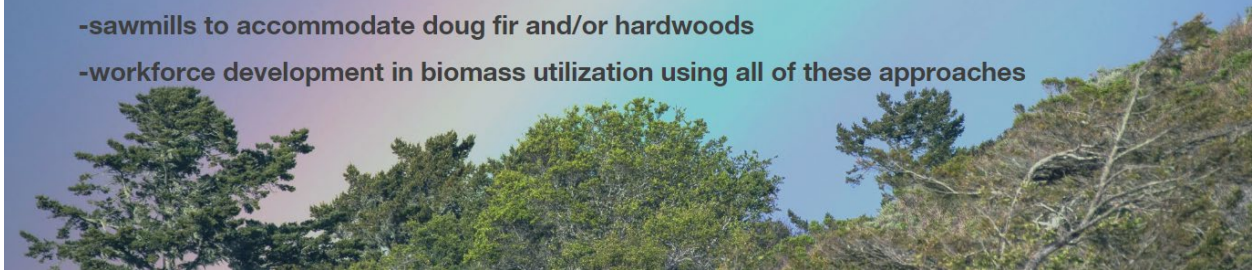
No ability to offer secured supply of feedstock from forest waste

Working in burned forests will only get more dangerous and complicated

Regulations and permits from different agencies conflict with one another and make more responsible management actions more expensive

Potential Solutions

- Must be multi-pronged to provide a long term solution
- Many models and tools exist in the state ([joint powers authority](#), [non-profit conservation/economic development organizations](#), [woody biomass grant programs](#), [air board incentives to think creatively](#))
- Expanded cultural and prescribed burns on the landscape
- Need centralized locations to support the region that could theoretically offer:
 - a fleet of mobile incineration units
 - a stationary biomass power plant that also creates electricity, biochar, or bio-oil
 - a storage facility for free firewood, choice logs for artisanal use, and woodchips for home use
 - sawmills to accommodate doug fir and/or hardwoods
 - workforce development in biomass utilization using all of these approaches



County-lead biomass strategy: Forest Biomass Strategic Plan, Energy Crediting, etc.

Example: Placer County's Incentivization to Process Forest Biomass

Home » Government » Departments A - D » Air Pollution Control » Air Quality » Biomass » Biomass Waste for Energy Greenhouse Gas Protocol

BIOMASS WASTE FOR ENERGY GREENHOUSE GAS PROTOCOL

The District has developed a protocol ([protocol \(PDF\)](#) / [summary \(PDF\)](#)) that provides a rigorous accounting framework for quantifying greenhouse gas emission offset credits for biomass waste for energy projects. The protocol has been peer reviewed and endorsed by numerous agencies ([support letters \(PDF\)](#)). The protocol supports the use of biomass wastes for energy through the innovative monetary valuation of the greenhouse gas benefits. Greenhouse gas offset credits will be issued for compliance with California Environmental Quality Act mitigation obligations through a greenhouse gas exchange registry coordinated by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association.



<https://www.placerair.org/1810/Biomass>



<https://placerair.org/DocumentCenter/View/74787/2023-APCD-strategic-plan-FINAL>

Joint Power Authority

Example: Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

Goal 1: Vegetation Management

Goal 2: Detection, Alert & Evacuation

Goal 3: Grants

Goal 4: Public Outreach & Education

Goal 5: Defensible Space & Home Hardening

Vision Statement

Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority communities are informed, prepared, fire adapted, resilient and capable of withstanding a major fire limiting loss of life and major property damage while protecting our rich environmental diversity.

Mission Statement

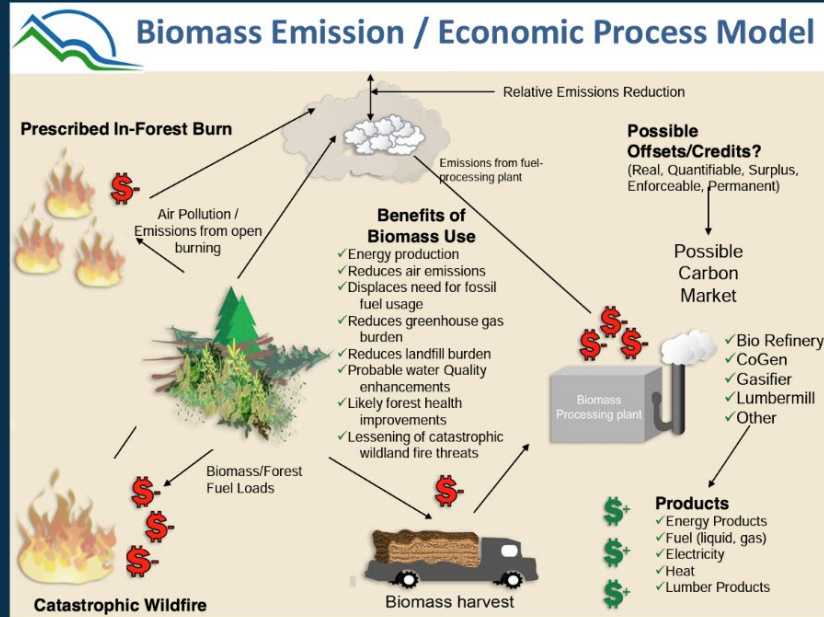
The Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority leads the development of fire adapted communities using sound scientific, financial, programmatic, ecological practices, vegetation management, community education, evacuation and warning systems with the support of its member and partner agencies.

<https://www.marinwildfire.org/>

**Everyone has a role
in adapting to wildfire**



LEADING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FIRE ADAPTED MARIN

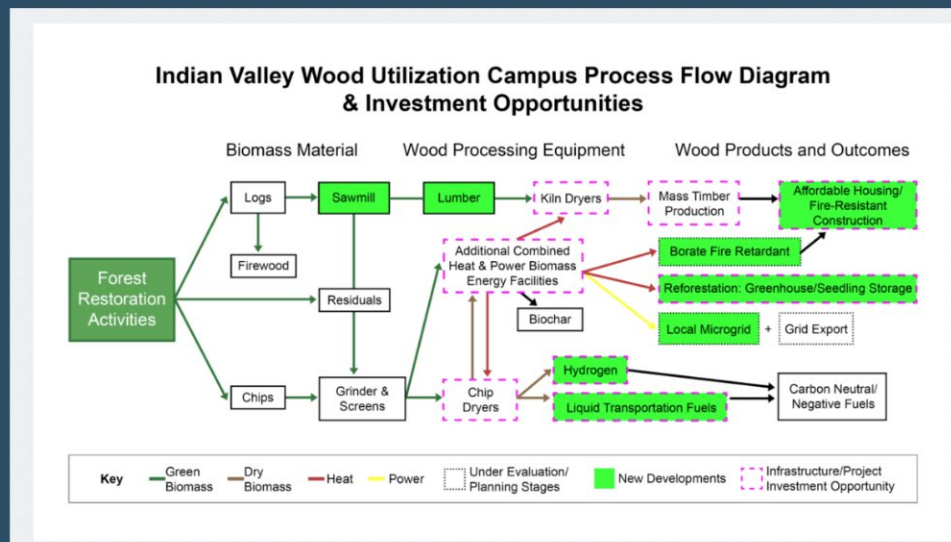


<https://www.placerair.org/DocumentCenter/View/2081/Forest-Resource-Sustainability-Presentation-PDF>

When grants are available to implement fuels management work, we can continue doing critical work, but at some point federal and state grants will run out and we will need to develop a way to help fund this critical work to keep forests healthier. Forest products can be converted into merchantable products. One obvious solution is bringing back more mills that can process more local species to help add value to the woody biomass being pulled from the forest. The California Department of Conservation has determined that to achieve the state's goals for pace and scale of biomass management work, using woody biowaste to create bio-energy (electricity or fuels) is the best path forward.

Unification of economic development and wood utilization objectives

Example: Sierra Institute's Indian Valley Wood Utilization Campus



<https://sierrainstitute.us/program/ivwpc/>

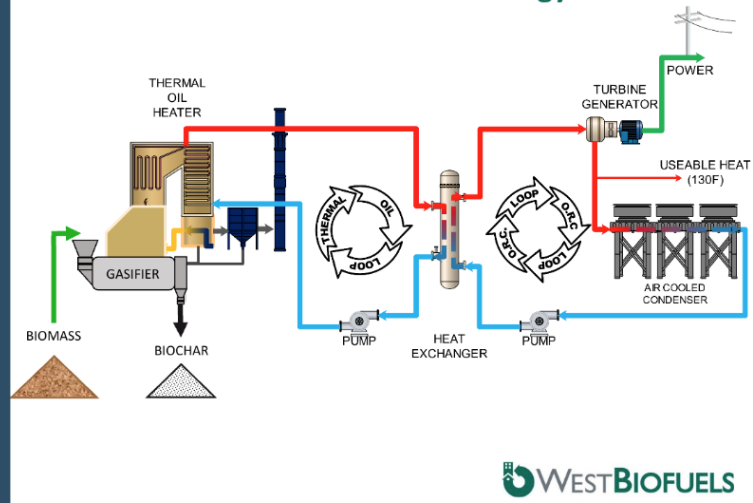
Biomass campus with a variety of tools available (Sierra Institute in Taylorsville, CA).

Gasification for electricity production and biochar

Example: WestBiofuels: Hat Creek Bioenergy Project

- Converts woodchips into electricity and biochar, and usable heat
- Ideally located adjacent to something that requires heat
- Opportunity to partner with ag producers, water processing facilities, etc. to provide heat

Success Factors: Robust Technology



Other facilities are being commissioned that create electricity and biochar soil amendments from woody waste.

Bioenergy co-location with private partners: Pairing facilities with electricity users, like food processors

Examples: Meat processing plant in Italy; JBS meat facility in Australia



In other countries, biomass power plants are co-located with places that use substantial amounts of electricity, like this meat processing plant that requires significant electricity to freeze food products.

Regional Woody Biomass Utilization Strategy



-In-depth interviews with a variety of landowners and stakeholders

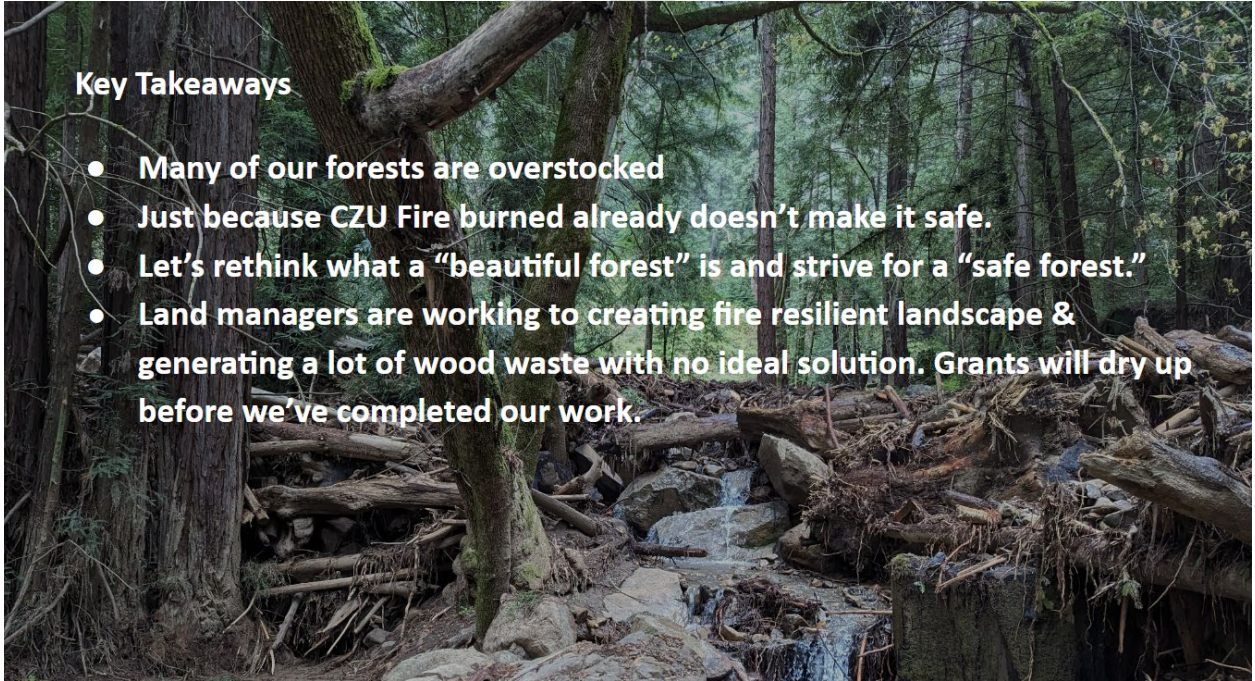
-Identify overlapping needs and cumulative potential benefits

-Will lead to innovative regional proposals to maximize outcomes for multiple groups

The investigation into the many strategies to manage woody biomass is the reason the Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship Network is embarking on the Regional Woody Biomass Utilization Strategy. To study the alternatives and make recommendations on the best utilization strategies for the region.

Key Takeaways

- Many of our forests are overstocked
- Just because CZU Fire burned already doesn't make it safe.
- Let's rethink what a "beautiful forest" is and strive for a "safe forest."
- Land managers are working to creating fire resilient landscape & generating a lot of wood waste with no ideal solution. Grants will dry up before we've completed our work.





Key Takeaways

- Landowners cannot solve this regional issue alone.
- Excess biomass isn't just a problem in the CZU footprint. Unburned unmerchantable wood needs a home too. This problem is not going away.
- Existing options available to us are either too expensive, or have negative emissions and fire risk impacts.
- In order to meet our fire resilience goals - we need to remove wood from the forest-across the entire region
- Prescribed fire needs to be part of the long-term solution for maintenance, but we need to prepare by removing large fuels now.



Key Takeaways

- We don't know what the dream solution is yet, but we're going to be asking for your support.
- Forest management <-> Waste management.

First Step— let's work together to reduce the red tape to process biomass as part of emergency clean up.

The EPA requires that emissions from a mobile carbonator be monitored like an industrial power plant, increasing complexity and costs. Using mobile equipment to designed to capture emissions should be exempt from Title V—especially when providing an alternative to pile burning. Will you sign our letter?

Next Steps for You

Please get in touch with any of us to forge ahead together! Stay tuned for recommendations

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[Woody Biomass Problem - Google Slides](#)

Integrated Waste Management Task Force

SB 54 Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act

- Nation's most comprehensive legislation to cut dependence on single-use products.
- Establishes new extended producer responsibility program to ensure packaging and plastic food ware sold in California is recyclable or compostable.
- Shifts plastic pollution responsibility from local municipalities to producers.
- Sets recycling rate requirements.
- Advances reuse/refill infrastructure.



Circular Economy – The Path Forward

- Keeps resources and materials in circulation through reuse, repair, recycling, and mindful use of resources.
- Shifts economy away from waste production by ensuring products are easily reused or recycled.
- Designs waste and pollution out of the production cycle.



Key Features of SB 54

- Packaging must be recyclable or compostable by January 2032
- Packaging must achieve milestone recycling rates
 - 30% recycling rate by 1/1/2028
 - 40% recycling rate by 1/1/2030
 - 65% recycling rate by 1/1/2032 and thereafter
- Packaging must achieve source reduction milestones
 - 10% source reduction by 1/1/2027 (2% reuse/refill)
 - 20% source reduction by 1/1/2030 (4% reuse/refill)
 - Evaluation every 5-years to determine if greater source reduction is needed
- Other reduction tools focused on product optimization
 - Lightweighting, concentrating, changing packaging types
 - Recycled content capped at 8% as alternative compliance



Producer Responsibility Features of SB 54

- Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) will administer the process to shift packaging pollution burden from municipalities to product/packaging producers
- Producers will support the work of the PRO
 - Cover the costs to collect and process covered materials
 - To achieve SB 54 pollution reduction goals
- Producer Responsibility Plan
 - Create program
 - Increase recycling
 - Enroll Manufacturers
 - Cut trash pollution in Disadvantaged Communities
 - Plan must be complete by 1/1/2027

Producer Responsibility Organizations



Create Programs



Increase Recycling



Cut Trash Pollution in Disadvantaged Communities



Enroll Manufacturers



Pay All Implementation Costs

SB 54 CalRecycle Activity Timeline 2023–2026

2023

July 1, 2023: Appoint Advisory Board
Hold Informal Rulemaking Workshops &
Engage with Stakeholders

Recurring Activities

2024

Hold Informal Rulemaking Workshops &
Engage with Stakeholders

- Publish list of recyclable and compostable materials in CA

2025

Establish baseline for Plastic Materials
for Source Reduction
Report to Legislature
Promulgate regulation by January 1, 2025
Material Characterization Study published

- Publish list of recyclable and compostable materials in CA

2026

Review and approve producer responsibility
organization (PRO) plans
Publish covered material recycling rates
CalRecycle and Advisory board consider

- Publish list of recyclable and compostable materials in CA

Senate Bill 54 – Potential Problems

- Recyclable & Compostable materials must be defined during rulemaking.
- SB 54 through AB 1201 gives CalRecycle authority to define plastic product specifications for compostability.
- CalRecycle will develop specifications for plastics compostability and exempts “fiber products” that contain no plastic from these specifications.
- Current CalRecycle definitions of organic and compostable materials include many items that do not break down as compost.



Residential Compost



Commercial Compost

Questions?

Thank You





Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force

Edible Food Recovery Regional Partnerships

Countywide Update

Senate Bill 1383 Recap Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Act

- CalRecycle developed regulations to reduce landfill disposal of organics
 - Requires all jurisdictions to provide:
 - Universal waste service, including organic waste collection services;
 - Diversion of edible food for human consumption;
 - Countywide capacity planning to ensure adequate organics recycling and food recovery capabilities.
 - Organics recycling and food recovery education;
 - Recycling organic waste materials collected into soil amendments or biofuel products;
 - Jurisdictional procurement of recovered organic waste products;
 - Contamination monitoring (route reviews & waste evaluations); and
 - Enforcement for failure to comply with SB 1383 diversion and procurement requirements



SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Update

- Local jurisdictions are partnering to use available CalRecycle grant funds to support collaborative Edible Food Recovery projects:
 - Food Recovery Partner Survey,
 - Capacity Planning Report,
 - Bilingual outreach materials,
 - Tier 1 Vendor/Distributor outreach and onboarding,
 - Tier 2 outreach and onboarding,
 - Tier 2 edible food recovery training,
 - Technology to improve edible food recovery:
 - Communication,
 - Collection,
 - Record keeping and reporting.

| Percentage of grant by Population Based on CalRecycle Population Annual Procurement Target | | | |
|---|---------|--------|--|
| Capitola | 10,091 | 3.86% | |
| Santa Cruz | 56,156 | 21.50% | |
| Unincorporated | 131,747 | 50.45% | |
| Scotts Valley | 11,755 | 4.50% | |
| Watsonville | 51,366 | 19.67% | |
| | 261,115 | | |

Countywide Capacity Planning – August 2024

- Cities and County must work together to ensure:
 - Adequate organic waste recycling facilities exist to recycle organic materials diverted from landfills.
 - Estimate organic waste diverted from landfills.
 - Identify available organic waste recycling capacity.
 - Identify whether new or expanded capacity is needed.
 - Adequate food recovery capacity exists to accept the maximum amount of edible food available from Tier 1 and Tier 2 mandatory food donors.
 - Estimate the amount of edible food that mandated food donors would send to landfills.
 - Identify available existing capacity at food recovery organizations/services.
 - Identify whether new or expanded capacity is needed by county's local jurisdictions.
 - Support development of expanded edible food recovery capacity if needed.



SB 1383: Edible Food Recovery Tier 1 & Tier 2 Donors

- Requires Tier 1 and Tier 2 food donors to donate all edible food that would otherwise be disposed in landfills
- Tier 1 and Tier 2 food donors must have a contract with a food recovery organization and maintain food donation records on site.
 - Tier 1 donor requirements took effect January 1, 2022:
 - Fits well with traditional food recovery operation collection and placement operations.
 - Tier 2 donor requirements take effect January 1, 2024:
 - Increased recovery of prepared foods will challenge traditional food recovery operations.
- County and local jurisdictions are examining technology solutions to simplify food recovery.



Questions?
Thank you