

HOW CAN WE GET GREEN POWER FROM OVERCROWDED FORESTS?

An estimated 4.25 million acres (about 15% of Oregon's forestland) have the potential to provide useful woody biomass through thinning to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic forest fires. Most of these overly dense forests are federally owned and managed.

SHORT-TERM USE

The best short-term use for woody biomass might be as a fuel for generating electricity and heat used in wood products manufacturing.

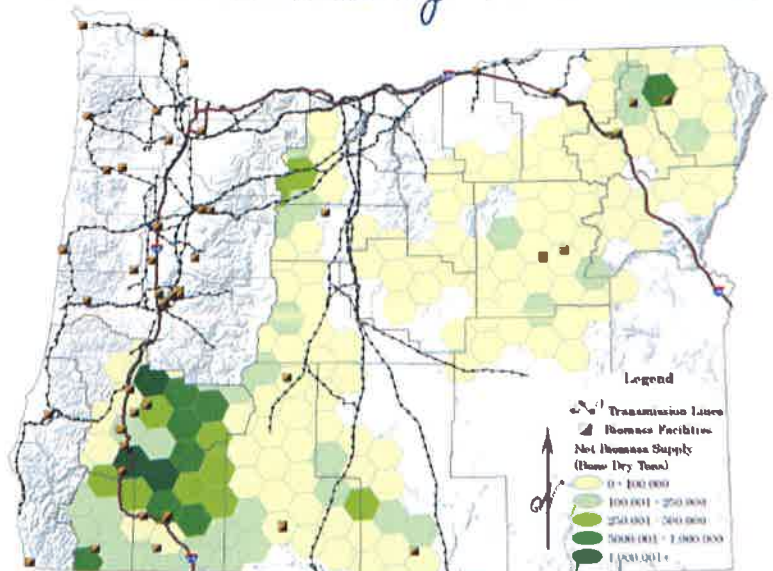
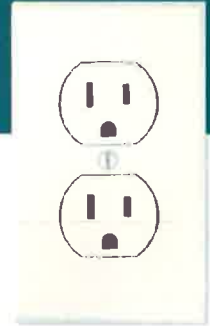
LONG-TERM USE

A potential long-term use is converting woody biomass to biofuels and bioproducts to replace fossil fuels.

THE WOODY BIOMASS TRIPLE WIN:

- Restore forest health, fire resiliency and wildlife habitat.
- Help meet Oregon's renewable energy goals.
- Provide hundreds of jobs and help revitalize rural economies.

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This map shows the net woody biomass supply in Oregon – mostly in the eastern and interior southwestern regions of the state – that can be recovered by thinning overly dense, fire-prone forests. Each hexagon represents 160,000 acres. Existing biomass energy facilities and major electrical lines are also shown.

OREGON'S GROWING ENERGY NEEDS

Thinning these forests over 20 years would provide enough woody biomass per year to generate about 150 megawatts of electricity. To put that in perspective, the use of electricity in Oregon currently is growing at a rate of about 100 megawatts per year.

Other sources of woody biomass include wood waste generated at wood products plants as well as juniper woodlands, logging slash and discarded wood and yard debris that often ends up in landfills.

Source: *Biomass Energy and Biofuels from Oregon's Forests*, a 2006 study commissioned by and available from the Oregon Forest Resources Institute.



OREGON FOREST
RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Oregon's Legislature created the Oregon Forest Resources Institute to improve public understanding of Oregon's forest resources and to encourage sound forest practices

Learn more at www.oregonforests.org