



New World Biomass Conference 2008
Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, NM

Pre-Conference Workshop

Monday April 21, 2008

Addressing The National Energy Plan, The National Fire Plan and The Healthy
Forests Initiative Through Biomass Utilization

Course Summary:

The pre-conference workshop will focus primarily on what biomass utilization and the current trends in renewable energy means to the implementation of the National Fire Plan and the Healthy Forest Initiative.

Biomass utilization, especially small diameter material, has always been a concern to land managers and contractors alike. The concern being, what to do with the waste material once a project has been completed. For land managers, the best case scenario is to have the material removed completely; but at what cost. Contractors will not remove the material because there is no market for them to re-coup the cost of moving the material. So, the majority of the material is piled and later burned if and when the funds are made available. Most times the piles remain unburned for months if not years before they are treated making the threat of wildfire, infestation, and disease a real possibility. There are other techniques available to modify the material. These include chipping or mastication which can be expensive and very high impact. However, with these techniques the material is only modified and re-arranged and not removed.

With budget cuts being made across the board, it has become imperative that land managers find ways to reduce the cost of treating the lands they have been charged with. While on the other hand; contractors must find ways to increase profitability through utilization.

This workshop will address these issues through the concept of *waste to energy*. Biomass is fast becoming the largest source of renewable energy in the U.S. and advances in genetic, chemical, mechanical and electrical engineering have made it possible to convert cellulose into ethanol and generate electricity from biomass feedstocks such as wood chips, manure, wastepaper and mill residues.

This one-day, fully accredited workshop (pending) will feature these issues as well as others concerning *waste to energy*. The workshop speakers will all be industry professionals and policy makers who are all doing their part to bring energy production through biomass utilization to mainstream America.

Course Attendees:

We are expecting a diverse group of between 200-250 attendees for the Pre-Conference Workshop. Attendees will be made up of renewable energy professionals, forestry contractors and professionals, as well as government representatives from all levels. The workshop will be accredited (pending) by The Society of American Foresters and will be worth 3-6 credit hours depending on SAF accreditation.

Course Presenters/Speakers:

The cadre of speakers and presenters will be a very diverse group. They will be made up of industry professionals, policy makers, and renewable energy advocates; all leaders in their chosen fields. Each speaker will bring with them the necessary knowledge and experience to take biomass and renewable energy to new heights.

The level and quality of the speakers along with the timeliness and importance of the topics make this workshop a “must attend” for anyone and everyone wanting to make a difference.

Workshop Agenda:

Monday April 21

7:00am- 8:00am-	Workshop Registration and Networking Opportunity
8:00am- 8:30am	Welcome and Opening Remarks
8:30am- 10:00am-	Session 1
10:00am- 11:30am	Session 2
11:30am- 1:00pm	Lunch and Networking
1:00pm- 3:00pm	Session 3
3:00pm- 4:30pm	Panel Discussion Followed by Closing Remarks