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From: don hittenmiller <ctvh2006@yahoo.com> Sent: Thu 3/24/2016 10:10 AM
To: CALFIRE Forest Climate Advisory Team
Cc:
Subject: Lack of Infrastructure to Process Feed Stock/Biomass to attain Forest Health/Improve Forest C Storage

California lacks the infrastructure to process the biomass that must come out of the forests per fuel reduction management guidelines. If we look at California's consumption of forest feed stock (small diameter trees) for bio-energy in 2009 at 0.8 million bone dry tons (BDT), we fall severely short on the consumption side if we use the accepted harvesting guidelines established by forest management groups at 10-100 BDT per acre for some 17 million acres. At these consumption rates, between 200-2000 years would be needed by the bio-energy sector. This level of consumption is completely insufficient for proper forest management set by the GTR 220 guidelines. The ramifications of this limited removal of biomass will result in the loss of our forests as carbon storage sources and will damage associated watersheds. The severity and scale of fires will increase beyond what we have seen historically.

The only solution is long term planning for infrastructure of wood products, such as Oriented Strand Board (OSB) and Wood Fiber Insulated Board (WFIB) plants and/or other composite panel plants to scale. These wood products use the same biomass as bio-energy plants. They are long lasting C-storage wood products. The current market in California for OSB is quite large. By developing other markets for panel wood products such as CLT and WFIB we enhance the flow of feed stock out of the forests and thereby Forest Health/Forest C storage. We also add C storage via these long lasting wood products

We will not achieve our vision of Forest Health/Forest C storage without manufacturing infrastructure to process the feed stock at appropriate scale.

Don Hittenmiller, Alpine Biomass Committee (ABC), ACCG member