

# The Mendocino County Woody Biomass Working Group

- Who we are
- Why we care about biomass utilization
- How our work relates this workshop



# Can Woody Biomass Utilization Benefit our Community?





# Benefits and Concerns of Biomass Utilization

## Benefits

- Promotes healthy forests
- Reduces catastrophic forest fire hazards
- Increases water availability
- Produces a relatively clean renewable energy source (addresses global climate change)
- Movement towards energy independence

- Increases the value of forest products
- Supports existing timber based infrastructure
- Makes restoration work more economically viable
- Increases County tax revenues

- Creates Jobs
- Community input into process creates empowerment
- Part of the localization movement – energy created here



Mendocino County Woody Biomass Working Group

## Environmental

## Economic

## Social

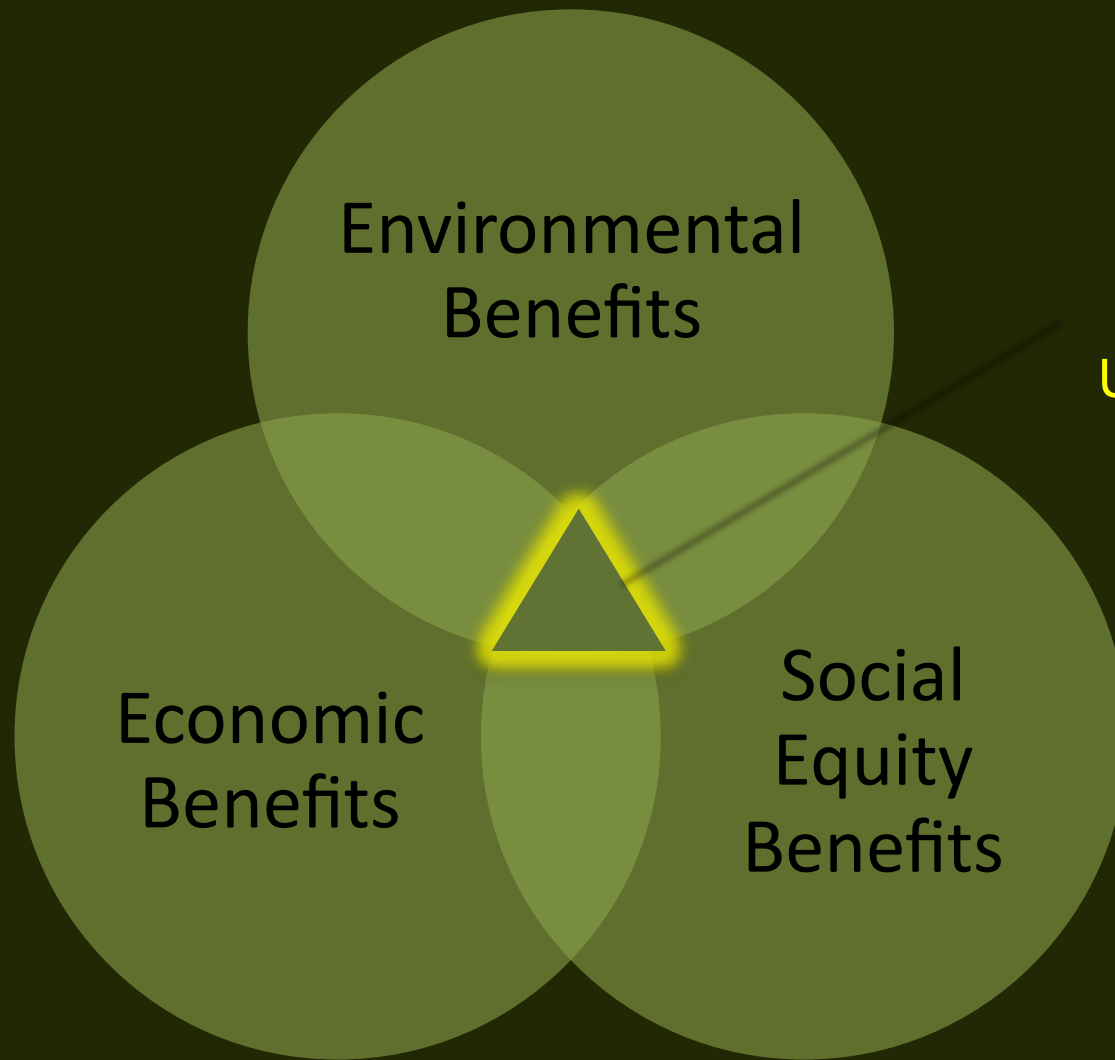
## Concerns

- Overharvesting forests to feed a facility
- Air emissions (Particulate Matter)
- Water Use
- Nutrient Removal

- Fuel supply shortage
- Cost of transportation
- Market for energy (cost of energy/ who will be the buyer)

- Location of facility around residential areas
- Community education about the facts
- Integrating diverse perspectives





3-E  
Biomass  
Utilization



# Maximizing 3-E Benefits

- Scale



- approx. 250,000 BDT per year
- Produces 28.4 MW of electricity



- Technology



- approx. 365 BDT per year
- equivalent to a .04 MW power plant

# Which Brings Us to Today...

- Learn about different technologies that convert biomass to energy
- Develop a common understanding of what is what is possible for Mendocino County
- Help create real dialogue about what kinds of technologies would work here

