

**Statewide Wood Energy  
Team (SWET)**

**Cooperative Agreement**

BWG meeting | September 24, 2013

# Outline

- 15 minute presentation
  - Background
  - Objectives
  - Budget
  - Implementation Team
  - Governance
- 45 minute discussion
  - Questions
  - Discussion

# Background

- Cooperative agreement with Forest Service
- Develop new or existing statewide wood energy teams
- BWG decided to pursue the opportunity in Spring
- RFP released in July
- Awards announced in early September



# Objectives

- Enhance biomass utilization outreach and education
- Coordinate and enhance targeted project development technical assistance
- Conduct pre-feasibility scans and/or feasibility assessments where justified based on pre-established criteria
- Assist projects with completed and promising feasibility assessments to apply and obtain next level of funding and support (e.g. private and public funding)
- Improve effectiveness of stakeholder coordination
- Explore and develop financing opportunities
- Investigate and establish BWG MOU and future financing mechanism for sustainability

# Budget

Activity	Description	Amount
Personnel	Project administration, BWG coordination, thermal project scans and technical assistance	\$123,204
Project Development Assistance	Assistance with contracting, fundraising for feasibility, engineering and design, and project finance	\$198,100
Feasibility Assessment	15 assessments at \$2,500 each	\$37,500
Technical Assistance	“Barrier” issues like sustainability, CEQA and finance	\$25,524
Develop support tools	Wood energy project planning and decision support tools	\$67,500
Travel	WEIT member travel to BWG meetings and for on site assistance; travel scholarships	\$10,640
Supplies & Materials	Educational and technical information in support of workshops and project development resources like technical bulletins, case studies and project development guides	\$1,920

# Wood Energy Implementation Team

Organization	Name	Role in WEIT
Watershed Research & Training Center	Nick Goulette	Cooperative agreement administrative lead
	Angela Lottes	Core team activities, BWG coordination
USFS, Region 5	Larry Swan	USFS Coop. Agreement program leader
	Robert Goodwin	Tribal liaison
Sierra Nevada Conservancy	Kim Carr	Policy and resource development
	Elissa Brown	Funding development
University of CA	Peter Tittmann	Outreach, education and extension TA
California Energy Commission	Garry O'Neill	State biomass energy rep.
CAL FIRE	Doug Wickizer	State and private lands and Biomass Collaborative
TSS Consultants	Tad Mason	Biomass energy industry rep.
Sierra Institute for Community & Env.	Jonathan Kusel	Non-profit community and environmental group rep.

# Governance

- Formal governance for fiscal and deliverable responsibilities
- Role of Internal Structure subgroup
- Wood Energy Implementation Team's first conference call is scheduled for early October; October BWG meeting will contain more details about the work plan

# Questions?



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- o Conduct at least 3 workshops or other education and awareness outreach sessions per year, and at least 1 with a tribal co-sponsor or significant tribal participation;
- o Design and test at least one web based tool to help expedite outreach and pre-feasibility assessments; and
- o Develop and deliver at least 6 educational presentations and materials for project developers and communities.
- o Publish and maintain a public outreach focused wood bioenergy website and social media presence.
- o Conduct at least 6 regional or sub-regional meetings designed to help interested parties share best practices, successes, and barriers and opportunities to achieving woody biomass utilization goals;
- o Investigate geographic gaps in biomass energy facilities, such as portions of the North Coast and Southern California.

- o Conduct at least 10 pre-feasibility assessments, assist in completing at least 3 feasibility analyses, and undertake at least 12 other planning activities related to investigating or supporting possible woody biomass energy facilities (e.g. permitting, Power Purchase Agreement negotiations, interconnect studies and various other negotiations);
- o Select up to 3 projects with the highest chance of success and assist these projects apply for public and private funding;
- o Improve coordination and communication between members of the BWG to improve effectiveness and project success, as indicated by the above specific goals;
- o Stimulate at least 1 supply contract related to an SB 1122 project within 2 years;
- o Facilitate development of 'sustainability criteria' to obtain wider stakeholder acceptance and reduce appearance of this factor in appeals and litigation.

- o Research and document full range of tax credits, loan and grant programs, and other financial assistance opportunities and make them available through web based tools;
- o Conduct outreach and at least 1 workshop specifically for financial community.
- o Draft and sign MOU to institutionalize existence and management of BWG;
- o Draft and implement administrative mechanism to fund BWG operations through contributions from multiple agencies and organizations.