

CA ad hoc Forest Biomass Working Group – eNewsletter 6/2019

Change of venue for the ROI Air Curtain Carbonator 500 demonstration this Wednesday, February 6th.

The only demonstration in Northern California of the ROI Air Curtain Carbonator 500 ([YouTube video](#)) will take place at [Old Durham Wood Co, 1156 Oroville-Chico Hwy, Durham, CA 95938](#), instead of at Butte College campus as initially planned. The demonstration will convert fire damaged wood from the Camp Fire to biochar for carbon sequestration and soil improvement. [See flyer for more information](#). Sign in with facility management will be required.

New due date for 2019 Wood Innovation Grant applications. The USFS Washington Office announced that the due date for 2019 Wood Innovation Grant applications has been officially changed to February 25 (5 pm PST). There will be no extensions even if there is another partial government shutdown. The Wood Innovations Grant web site has been updated accordingly: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/naspf/programs/wood-education-and-resource-center/2019-wood-innovations-program-request-proposals>. If that web site is taken down as a result of another government shutdown, please see https://ucanr.edu/sites/swet/Resources/Current_Grants/. It is strongly recommend that potential applicants download copies of all relevant materials beforehand and obtain Letters of Support or Commitment as soon as possible, including from the U.S. Forest Service Office that is best located to benefit from their proposal.

Mass timber is taking off across the U.S.—here’s what you need to know. The January 2019 print issue of [The Architects Newspaper is all about mass timber](#). To keep up with the industry and its quickly changing landscape, they mapped out the major players and the big issues surrounding wood innovation, from completed projects to boundary-pushing proposals that could shape the future of wood construction. Like an 18-story building that went up in 66 days, a totally timber smart city, and a timber temple to sports for the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics.

California Bioresources Economy Summit. On January 29th – 30th, 2019 the California Air Resources Board and Lawrence Berkeley National Lab co-hosted the 2019 California Bioresources Economy Summit, bringing together policymakers, bioresource experts, technology innovators, community groups, and researchers to explore how the State’s bioresources from the forest, agricultural, and urban sectors can help the State adapt to and mitigate climate change, improve air quality, create jobs, and achieve other significant co-benefits. [Presentations and recordings are now available online](#).

Economic Viability Assessment for a Biomass Utilization Facility. The Beck Group has completed a [Biomass Utilization Facility \(BUF\) feasibility study](#) for the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development. The [report](#) identifies and assesses several biomass utilizing businesses that could be developed as a BUF in Tuolumne County, CA. A video presenting the findings of the study and next steps for a BUF project will be posted on the [Tuolumne County Board of Supervisor’s meeting archives](#).

President's Executive Order on Forest Management. On the day before the partial government shutdown, President Trump signed an [Executive Order on Promoting Active Management of America’s Forests, Rangelands, and other Federal Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk](#). For those involved in writing grant and funding applications, like the [2019 Wood Innovations Grant](#) or the [Citizen Science Competitive Funding Program](#), this could be a citable reasoning for your proposal. Specifically: Sec. 2. Goals (a) To protect communities and watersheds, to better prevent catastrophic wildfires, and

to improve the health of America's forests, rangelands, and other Federal lands, the Secretaries shall each develop goals and implementation plans for wildfire prevention activities and programs in their respective departments. Sec. 5. Wildfire Strategy (b) (iv) Consider market conditions as appropriate when preparing timber sales, including biomass and biochar opportunities, and encourage export of these or similar forest-treatment products to the maximum extent permitted by law, in order to promote active forest management, mitigate wildfire risk, and encourage post-fire forest restoration;

DID YOU KNOW? Rumor has it, that California is a difficult state to do business in, when in fact California is open for (forest biomass) business. Those looking for assistance with navigating permits, incentives, imports and exports, check out GO-Biz, the [Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development](#). It serves as the State of California's leader for job growth and economic development efforts, offering a wealth of information as well as capable and dedicated staff to make business ideas a GO.