

CA ad hoc Forest Biomass Working Group – eNewsletter 30/2024

EPIC Grant Funding Opportunity - Clean, Dispatchable Generation. The purposes of [this solicitation](#) are to support the adoption of clean, dispatchable generation in California and reduce the reliance on fossil-based technologies while providing reliable power for critical infrastructure. By deploying clean, dispatchable generation technologies and producing hydrogen for electricity generation, this solicitation can benefit California's communities, workforce, air quality, and natural environments. The growing demand for a diversified energy portfolio, the imperative to address the grid's reliability needs, and the push for carbon neutrality goals highlight the importance of adopting [clean, dispatchable generation technologies](#). These technologies can play a crucial role in reducing the expense and resource requirements for achieving Senate Bill 100 (SB 100) implementation goals. Dispatchable generation technologies excel at meeting energy demands through their ability to ramp up and down, making them valuable in supporting the state's energy needs. They also complement intermittent renewables, such as solar and wind technologies, by providing stable power with the opportunity to reduce strain on the grid during times with high electricity demand. [Submission deadline September 13, 2024](#).

NEW - Mobile Biochar Production by Flame Carbonization: Reducing Wildfire Risk and improving Forest Resilience. Forest managers are searching for better approaches to manage low-value material resulting from fuels management and timber harvest. The conventional practice of slash pile burning emits pollutants and greenhouse gases, and leaves behind burn scars that degrade forest soils and inhibit regeneration of native plants. While sometimes this low-value material can be chipped and removed for beneficial uses elsewhere, such options are costly and logistically difficult on many remote forest sites. [Biochar production](#) presents a promising alternative, reducing the need for costly material transport, mitigating the environmental drawbacks of slash pile burning, and providing numerous benefits when applied to forest soils. Like slash pile burns, making biochar in place involves combustion, but the [methods described in this paper](#) are much cleaner and safer than unmanaged burn piles, emitting fewer embers, particulates, and greenhouse gases. Biochar also sequesters carbon because it is not easily degradable and can hold water and dissolved nutrients in soils - a significant benefit for forest health as the climate continues to warm and dry forest soils. This report examines several alternatives for making biochar in place using newly designed equipment as well as modifications of existing methods.

Advancing Equity in Land Reuse Planning and Visioning: A Practical Guide to engaging and activating Community Voices. The [Center for Creative Land Recycling \(CCLR\)](#) and [Groundwork USA](#) have released [Advancing Equity in Land Reuse Planning and Visioning: A Practical Guide to Engaging and Activating Community Voices](#) to help practitioners maximize the potential community benefit of their land revitalization projects by effectively engaging community members and centering equity in their process. The 27-page "[Equity Guide](#)" provides strategies, tools, and resources to advance environmental justice and equity through the reuse of brownfields. Land reuse efforts must be community-led in order to break the cycle of land use decisions that create and maintain inequities. This includes: open and honest conversations, active efforts to engage community members, and continued engagement throughout the reuse process. The Equity Guide serves as a blueprint for leaders, planners, and developers to create more equitable communities with safe and clean places for people to live, work, and play. Join a 90-minute [interactive workshop on September 12, 2024](#), designed to help land reuse practitioners with varying levels of experience and capacity integrate equity best practices into their land reuse projects. The workshop will feature case studies and tools for a deep dive into the guide, where participants will learn how to effectively use the guide and discover practical steps to embed

environmental justice principles in every phase of the land reuse process. This session is perfect for all people working with non-profits, community groups, and local governments dedicated to fostering equitable land reuse. [Register here](#).

Sawmill for Sale. [Crossroads Recycled Lumber, LLC \(CRL\)](#) in [North Fork, California](#), is for sale. CRL sits on 9-1/2 acres and is neighbor to the new North Fork forest biomass plant, scheduled to be completed this year. Crossroads, with a crew of 12, has been recycling wood since 1981, supplying quality old growth lumber, timbers, flooring, and finish materials to some of the [finest homes and commercial projects](#) in the West. The company buys lumber and timbers from industrial demolition projects to repurpose the wood for reuse and has operated at the former [North Fork Mill](#) site since 2000. It was the first business to purchase property during the site redevelopment and was one of the first mills to start milling beetle-killed trees on a small but meaningful scale. For more information contact John Reed, MVPCommercial, at 559-683-7474, or jreed@ccim.net.

Introduction to Forisk's new Online Mill Database Platform. Join a webinar on [Wednesday, July 24, at 10AM PDT](#) when Forisk will be hosting a free informational webinar to introduce their new online [Mill Capacity Database](#) platform. This innovative tool is designed to provide comprehensive, up-to-date information on over 2,400 wood-using mills across North America, streamlining access to critical data and enhancing market analysis capabilities. The Mill Capacity Database includes location, capacity, current wood use, and product data on over 2,300 wood-using mills in North America, along with announced and planned capacity changes or greenfield mill construction over the next two years by firm, mill type, and geography. During this [webinar](#), the Forisk team will provide an overview of the Mill Capacity Database and the added benefits of the new platform, including a live demonstration. [Sign up here](#).