

WOODY BIOMASS NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

December 2006

Woody Biomass - A New Management Tool for Alabama's Forest Landowners

With all the talk about alternative fuels, is there really a place for woody biomass harvesting in Alabama? That is exactly what a group of partners want to find out, and they are asking forest landowners to join them in this quest.

Recently, a group of Alabama partners received a grant from the USDA Forest Service to begin developing a woody biomass market for Alabama. These partners will explore key factors in the production and processing of woody biomass. A large portion of the project will take place on the Talladega National Forest and will help Forest Service managers address significant forest health concerns by removing small diameter stems and unmerchantable woody material.



CAN SMALL DIAMETER TREES BE HARVESTED EFFECTIVELY TO SUPPORT A BIOMASS MARKET AND IMPROVE FOREST CONDITIONS?

FOREST LANDOWNERS ARE INVITED TO HELP DEVELOP BIOMASS PROJECT

ON JANUARY 13, 2007 landowners, loggers, and forest managers are invited to learn about the woody biomass developments in Alabama, and participate in a workshop to help identify questions that need answers so that private landowners can make informed decisions about biomass harvesting on their land.

Workshop highlights:

- Overview of goals associated with the woody biomass grant.
- Presentations on woody biomass markets.
- Tour of previous biomass harvesting on the Oakmulgee District.
- Q & A's on what we know about biomass harvesting, and what we need to find out.
- Facilitated session on landowner interests and concerns regarding biomass harvesting.



Make plans now to spend the day with neighbors and others interested in sustaining Alabama's forests while working towards new markets for wood products.

For more information call 205-926-9765.
Details available after December 18, 2006.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR January 13th!

FOREST-BASED ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, INC.
8227 Clayton Road
Springville, AL 35148

205-681-8656
jgober@worldnet.att.net



LANDOWNERS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 2007!

There will be an important Land Owners Meeting

**Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm @ the
USDA Forest Service Work Center in Brent, AL.**

WOODY BIOMASS AS A MANAGEMENT TOOL— That's the focus of an Alabama partnership. The challenges of a depressed pulpwood market and the risks associated with prescribed fire have many landowners accepting overstocked stands and heavy mid-story conditions as "normal". This does not have to be the case. We know that thinning increases stand vigor and improves habitat for many species of wildlife. It also makes the forest more park-like in appearance and easier to enjoy. This partnership is inviting **YOU** - **an Alabama forest landowner** - to join them in exploring ways to improve forest habitat while creating a market for woody biomass.

The partners include the Talladega National Forest—Oakmulgee District, the Southern Company—Alabama Power, the CAWACO Resource Conservation and Development Council and private consultant, Jim Gober of Forest-based Economic Development Services, The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development, and Auburn University Forest Products Development Center.



A STAND ON THE TALLADEGA NATIONAL FOREST - OAKMULGEE DISTRICT RECENTLY HARVESTED FOR BIOMASS