### Wood Energy for Ski Areas

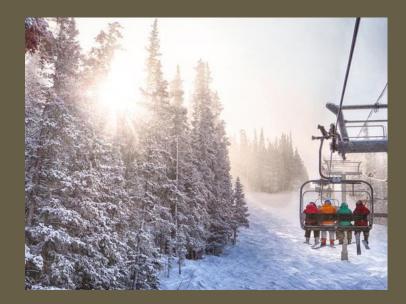


Julie Kies Wood and Biomass Utilization Coordinator USDA Forest Service Northern and Intermountain Regions November 14, 2017



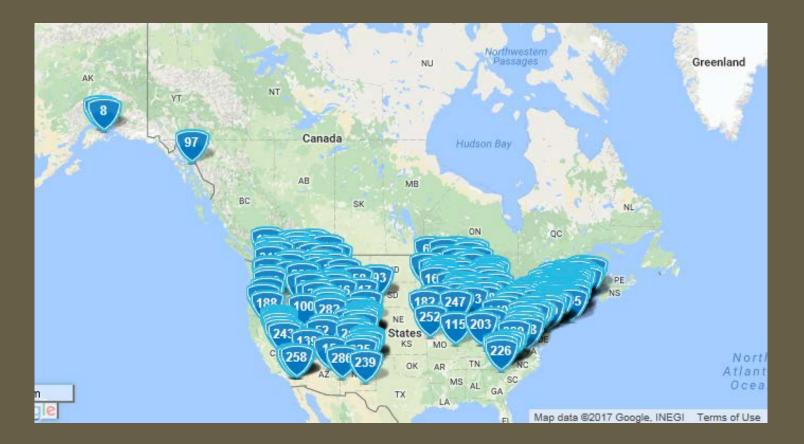
## outline

- the opportunity
- ski sector background
- operating and explored installations
- outreach



## the opportunity

Nexus of forestry, recreation, climate change, sustainability, watershed health/snow retention, renewable energy, and public communication.



# ski sector background

#### SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

- > 75% of ski areas have a sustainability program in place.
- Visitors place a high priority on environmental concerns.
- Renewable energy is least represented strategy, but fastest growing.

#### **TIPS and CHALLENGES TO CONSIDER**

- target mountain communities
- hard to implement capital projects
- higher performers have greater appetite for longer paybacks
- need to educate owners and upper management



# operating and explored installations

#### Operating

- Bridger Bowl, MT
- Mount Abrams, ME

#### **Exploring Now**

- Mt. Bachelor, OR
- Red Lodge Mountain, MT
- Laurel Mountain, PA

#### **Previous Assessments**

- Sierra at Tahoe, CA
- Mammoth, CA
- Vail, CO
- Lost Trail, MT/ID
- Moonlight Basin, MT
- Jay Peak Resort, VT



## outreach

- National Ski Area Association
- state/regional ski associations
- Climate Challenge participants
- clients and visitors
- USFS permit managers and Winter Sports staff

# Warm Toes & **Healthy Forests**

Resorts Turn to Affordable & Sustainable Heat Source

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## contact

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