

CA ad hoc Forest Biomass Working Group – eNewsletter 31/2020

California Forest Biomass Utilization Webinar and Q&A. Whether your organization has a full-fledged biomass program, or is just curious about how others across the state are tackling wood utilization projects, this will be a great opportunity to engage with leaders in the forest biomass field. Three guest speakers will be joining us, who represent some of the most mature and diversified examples of community-based leadership and have experience in a range of products, including but not limited to energy production. They have all played unique roles in leveraging funding, expertise, and public/private partnerships to navigate the complexities of project development. [This 90-minute webinar](#) will include presentations from guest speakers as well as time for questions from the audience. Community-based groups are encouraged to attend regardless of direct skills, current capacity or experience in the biomass field. Thursday, August 6th, 2:00 PDT. Please [register](#) for this event by August 3rd to secure your seat. Limited availability. The session will be recorded.

Biochar from Forest Residues: Benefits to Forest and Soil Health. Many forests around the western USA are overstocked and in need of restoration thinning. Forest thinning and other fuels treatments remove hazardous fuels while reducing the risk of wildfire but produce large volumes of biomass. Woody biomass can be used for bioenergy production, but only if transportation and handling costs are low enough to make this feasible. Therefore, disposal of excess woody biomass is often done through slash pile burning which produces no energy, can negatively impact soils, and creates air quality concerns. An alternative to pile burning is to create biochar on-site for local or within-watershed soil applications. Biochar can improve forest health and restore forest, agricultural, range, or mine site soil function and ecosystem services. Biochar production from forest biomass can be a link between forest restoration and soil health. This presentation will discuss forest sustainability, on-site biochar production efforts, soil responses to biochar, and potential agricultural uses. Dr. Debbie Page-Dumroese, a Research Soil Scientist with the Rocky Mountain Research Station in Moscow, ID, will highlight data from forest, range, and mine biochar study sites and discuss changes in site and soil processes. This presentation will be the first one of the NAU's Forestry Seminar Series for this fall semester of 2020. [Zoominar, Wednesday, August 19, 4PM PDT](#). Meeting ID: 992 6235 2083. Password: ForSem2020.

Woodworks Innovation Network. [Woodworks Innovation Network \(WIN\)](#) is a new online community that connects developers with design and construction professionals who have experience with innovative wood building systems and technologies. WIN builds on what [WoodWorks](#) has been doing for more than a decade—helping people increase their knowledge of wood building design, resolve issues, and move projects forward in wood. Dynamically driven by its architecture, engineering and contractor members, WIN showcases member projects through an interactive map and search directory, as well as experienced companies and individuals that can help developers who are new to wood achieve successful wood buildings. WIN is being piloted with an emphasis on mass timber in the introductory phase and will expand as membership grows to include systems such as off-site modular and innovative light-frame.

EPA proposes Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for Aircraft. In early 2021, the USA will have the world's first commercial facility to produce aircraft jet fuel (and other biofuels) from slash – FedEx and Southwest will fly their aircraft on the fuel produced from forest residues in Oregon. Other biofuels companies are exploring opportunities to construct similar biofuels facilities in the U.S. while oil companies are investing where they see the greatest long-term market security. Coincidentally, the [US Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) has just proposed emissions standards for aircraft used in](#)

[commercial aviation and large business jets](#). The proposed GHG standards would apply to new type design aircraft on or after January 1, 2020 and to in-production aircraft on or after January 1, 2028.

American Wood Council - Introduction to Mass Timber Products. [This presentation](#) will provide an overview of mass timber which includes any product currently permitted for use in Type IV (heavy timber) construction such as cross-laminated timber (CLT), structural composite lumber (SCL), glued laminated timber (glulam), mechanically laminated decking (aka nail-laminated timber, NLT), and large section sawn timbers. NLT, glulam, SCL, and solid sawn timbers have been adopted in the International Building Code (IBC) and utilized throughout the world for several decades on a wide variety of buildings. CLT was first incorporated in AWC's 2015 National Design Specification® (NDS®) for Wood Construction as well as ICC's 2015 International Building Code (IBC). All mass timber products offer sustainable qualities as they are manufactured from a renewable resource and store carbon. Structural and fire protection characteristics of mass timber will be discussed as well as IBC code provisions that allow their specification in both residential and commercial applications for a wide variety of occupancies. [Thursday, August 13, 2020.](#)

DID YOU KNOW? If that second little pig (you know, from [The Three Little Pigs](#)) had known about mass timber, its fate might have been decidedly different. WoodWorks, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Forest Products Lab and Softwood Lumber Board, conducted a series of successful blast tests on two-story, mass timber structures at Tyndall Air Force Base. Products tested include cross-laminated timber (CLT) and nail-laminated timber (NLT). [The results are rather impressive.](#)