



Collaborative Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022

1:30-3:30

Online Meeting Only – No In-Person Options (*Hoping to meet in person soon*)

Join Zoom Online	Dial Direct
https://cbuilding.zoom.us/j/91074023682	+1 669 900 6833
One-tap mobile: +1 669 900 6833,,91074023682#	+1 253 215 8782
Find your local number: https://cbuilding.zoom.us/u/aeAYEXhiP	833 548 0276 US Toll-free
	Meeting ID: 910 7402 3682

Contact: [Scot Rogers](#), US Forest Service, 530-363-6623 or Facilitator [Gina Bartlett](#) 415-271-0049

The South Fork American River (SOFAR) Cohesive Strategy is an All-Lands Wildland Fire Management Strategy with three goals:
Resilient Landscapes ♦ Fire Adapted Communities ♦ Safe & Effective Wildfire Response

Meeting Focus: Local Biomass Facility and Project Implementation Funding

1:30	Welcome, Agenda Review and Working Agreements: CBI Facilitators Gina Bartlett and Cameron Hager
1:35	Panel on Funding Biomass Facility <i>Purpose: To provide information to SOFAR regarding resources available for the successful implementation of a biomass utilization project in El Dorado County</i> <u>Establishing the Framework</u> Patrick Wright, Director of the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force The Task Force is guided by the California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan. "The Task Force's purpose has been to develop a framework for establishing healthy and resilient forests that can withstand and adapt to wildfire, drought and a changing climate." In this capacity, one of the key actions of the Task Force is to expand the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) program. The RFFC program provides for, among many things, regional block grants for project development and implementation of "landscape-level forest health projects consistent with the California Forest Carbon Plan and Executive Order B-52-18". The Executive Order includes two things of which SOFAR has maintained an ongoing interest: reducing barriers for prescribed fires and supporting wood products innovation.

Coordination of State and Federal Priorities to the Benefit of Rural Communities

Jonathan Kusel, Executive Director, Sierra Institute

“...Sierra Institute has advanced integrative programs that support rural environmental, economic, and community health at local, regional, and national levels for the past twenty-five years”. With this approach, it has been successful in coordinating projects necessary to advance overarching state and federal goals. Sierra Institute staff have worked with other collaboratives to help them with project development, coordination, and implementation. One of the projects in which it is involved is the conversion in public buildings to biomass heating as exemplified in the *Plumas Health and Human Services Center biomass heating facility*. Another that is perhaps of interest to SOFAR is the redevelopment of old sawmill sites into innovative wood byproduct campuses.

Implementation

Terrance Rogers, Economic Development Officer, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)

RCRC has made it a priority to create funding mechanisms and programs for economically viable market opportunities that utilize unmerchantable biomass and/or mill from forest management projects. It has conducted various market feasibility studies to decide which potential market to first pursue. To that end, it has formed a non-profit affiliate, Golden State Natural Resources, which will oversee the removal of fire fuels from forest restoration activities, the creation of a “pelletized fuel product at revitalized processing facilities in select RCRC member counties”, and exportation of the pellets to international markets.

2:15 Discussion and Questions

2:45 Biomass Work Group Update

3:00 SOFAR in 2022: [Revisit Goals from 2021](#) and heading into 2022

3:15 Updates and Announcements

Lester Lubetkin on Post-Caldor Fire funding needs associated with recreational residences' debris removal

Other?

3:25 Meeting Outcomes and Next Steps

March 9 Meeting: Biomass Options and Grant Proposal; Caldor Burn Severity Analysis; Caldor Recovery Efforts and Eldorado National Forest Resilience Strategy

SOFAR Collaborative Calendar

Time: 1:30-3:30 ♦ All Meetings Online for Now

2022: Jan 12 ♦ March 9 ♦ April 13 ♦ June 8 ♦ Oct 12 ♦ Nov 9