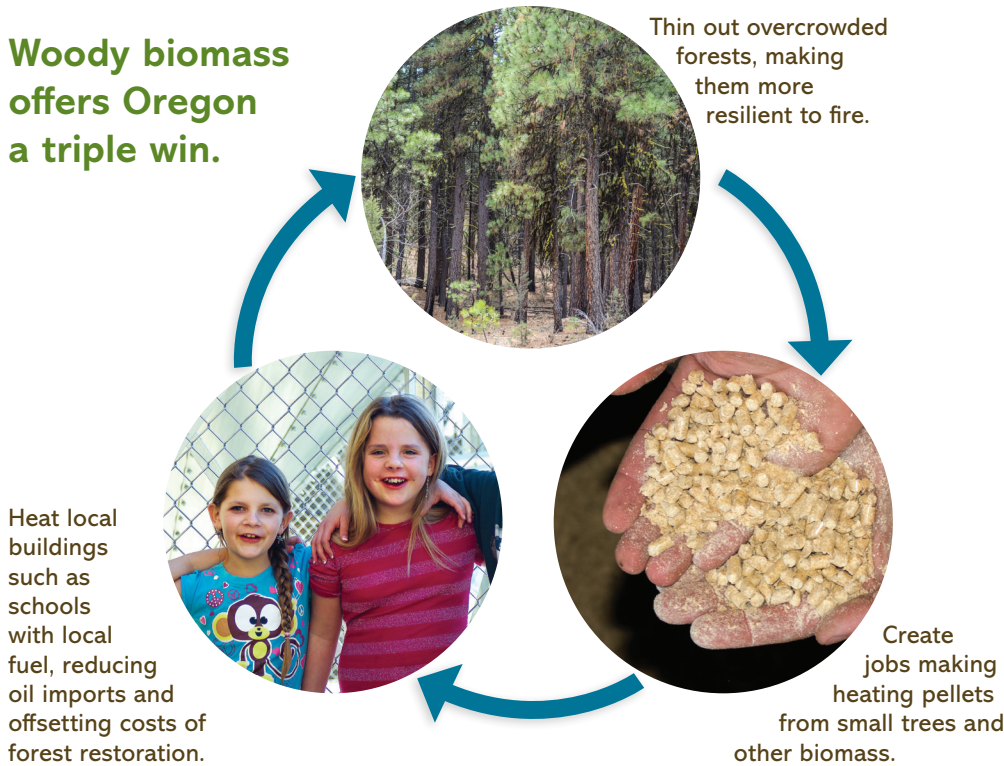


HOW CAN WE GET GREEN ENERGY FROM OVERCROWDED FORESTS?

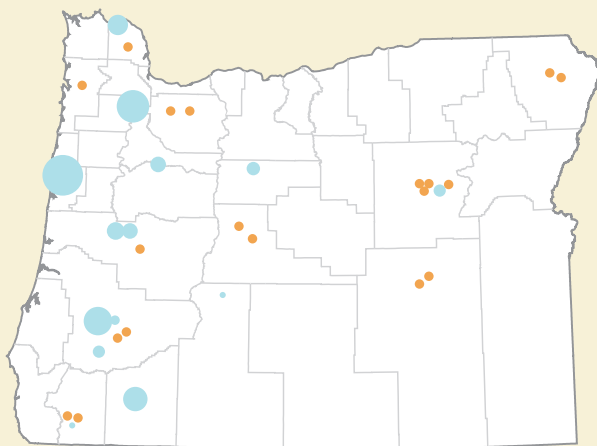
Oregon can reduce its reliance on fossil fuels, improve the health of overly dense federal forests and give a boost to rural economies – all at the same time – by expanding the way we use a huge and sustainable resource called “woody biomass.”

Woody biomass offers Oregon a triple win.



A HOME-GROWN, RENEWABLE RESOURCE

Oregon produces millions of tons of woody “waste” products every year, from logging slash to sawdust to small trees from US Forest Service thinning projects. All of it contains stored solar energy. The cost of extracting that energy is sometimes competitive with fossil fuels and sometimes not. Entrepreneurs, scientists and advocates are at work finding the most beneficial and cost-effective ways to use biomass to heat schools and hospitals, generate electricity, and fuel cars, trucks and airplanes.



- Electrical plants that are powered by woody biomass. The larger the circle the greater the electrical output.
- Institutional buildings – such as schools, hospitals and government offices – that are heated by woody biomass.

PROJECTS POPPING UP

Woody biomass can be used to create energy. Many such projects have gotten off the ground over the past decade, from a biomass electrical plant at the Seneca sawmill in Eugene to biomass heating systems at schools and other public buildings. Thinning the forest, especially in eastern Oregon, and making and selling the fuel creates jobs. It also keeps money at home that would otherwise have been spent importing fossil fuel, such as heating oil or propane.

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