



BIOMASS

in the

Sierra Nevada

A Case for Healthy Forests and Rural Economies



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UNHEALTHY



HEALTHY

The Role of Fire

Fire-suppressed Forest



Ecologically managed Forest



Illustration © The Nature Conservancy

- Produces less water downstream of the watershed
- Produces more GHG emissions and particulate emissions when it burns
- Stores less carbon after burning

- Produces more water downstream of the watershed
- Burns at a lower intensity (easier to manage)
- Stores more carbon longer after burning

Ecological Forestry Produces Biomass...



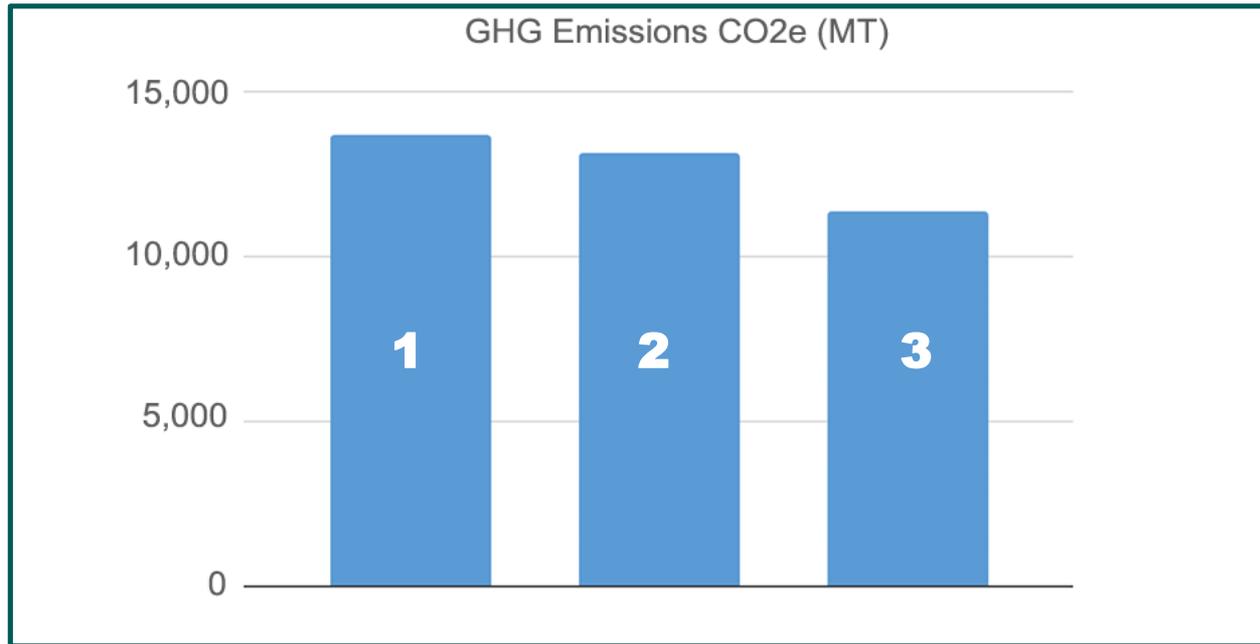
...a lot of it.

What do we do with all of that material?

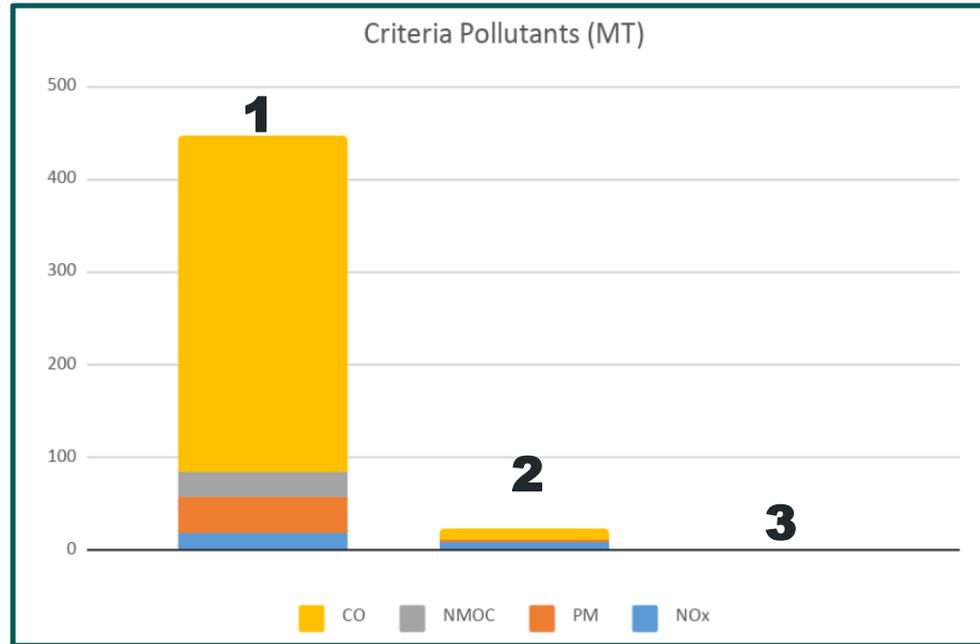


248 million BDT (bone dry tons) on
13.2 million acres

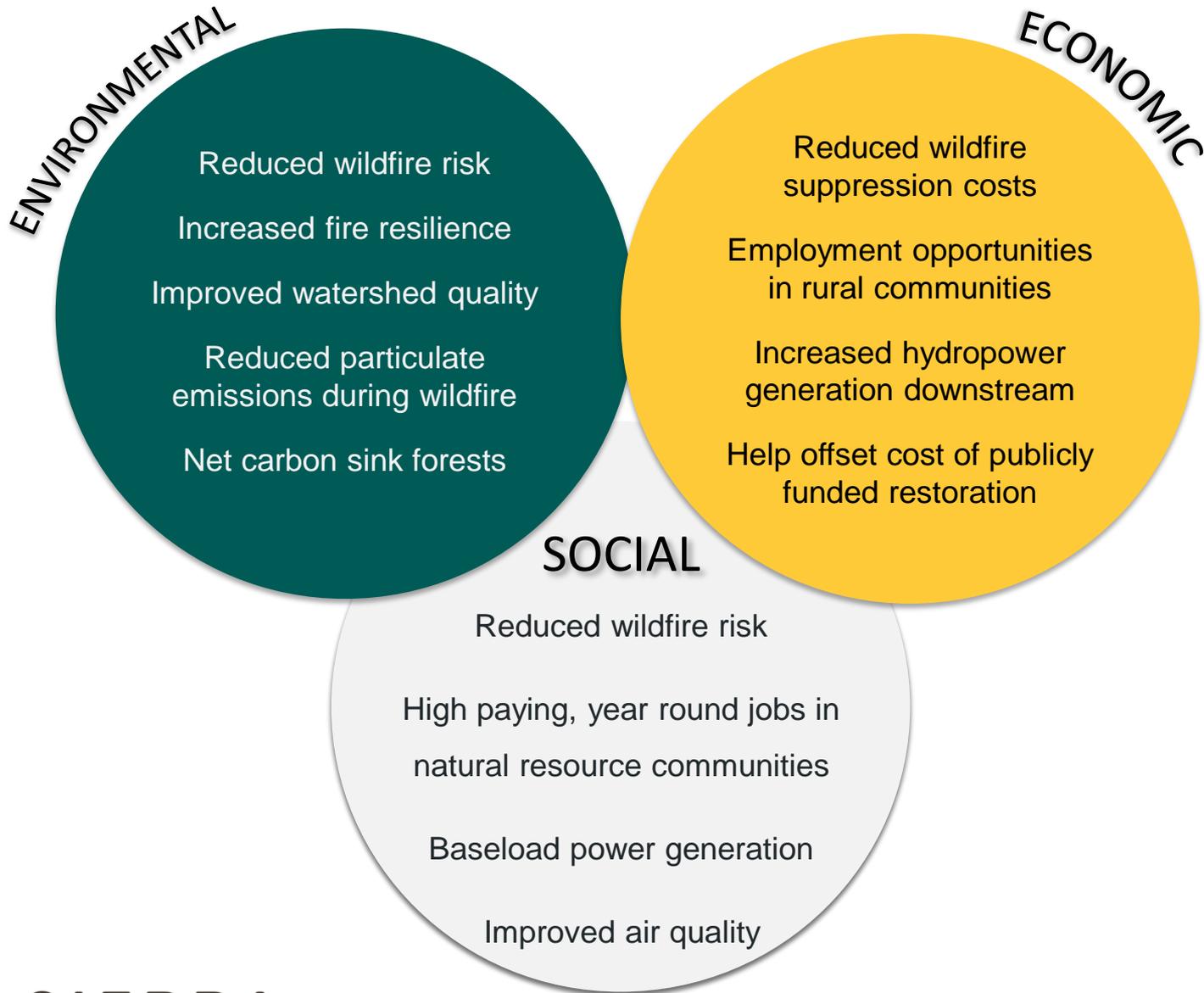
Emissions Profiles



Criteria Pollutants



CO-BENEFITS of BIOMASS



BIOMASS ENERGY UTILIZATION



20MW SYSTEM

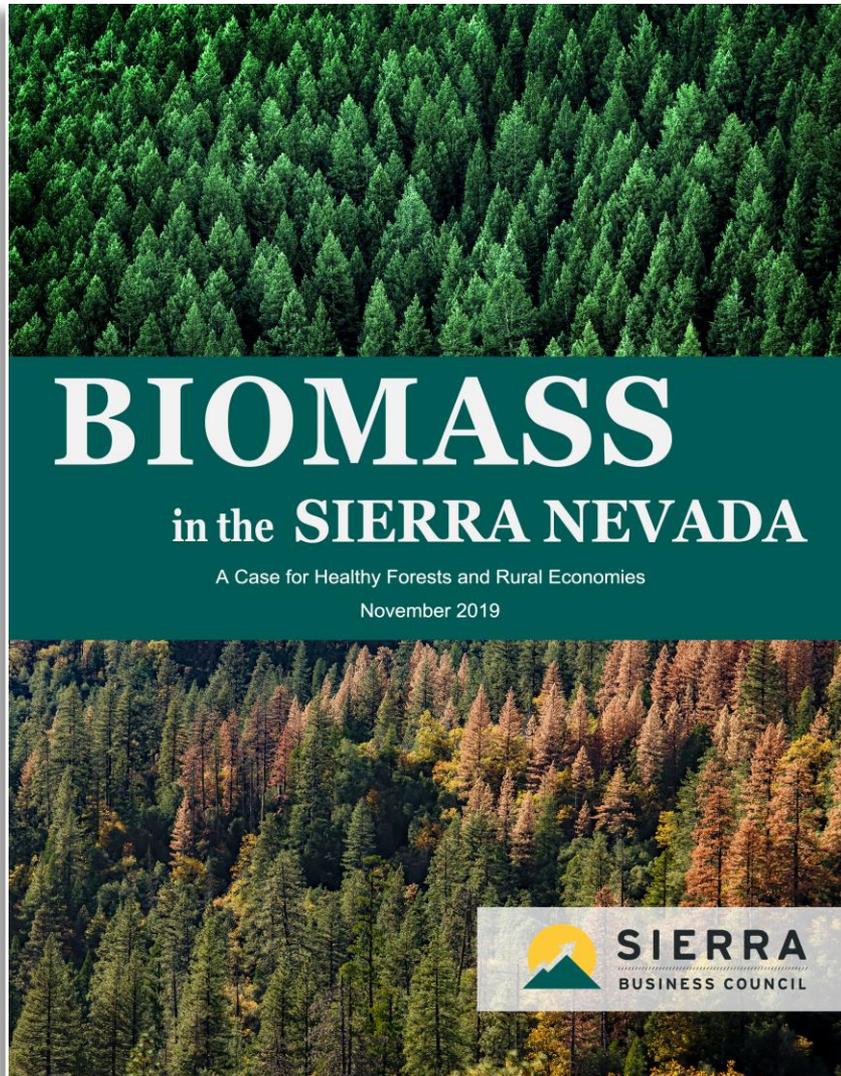
Provides electricity for the grid and local waste heat



15KW SYSTEM

Provides for heating and hot water requirements

RENEWABLE ENERGY



COMPREHENSIVE PUBLICATION

GOALS

- Educate undecided decision makers
- Mobilize coalition of messengers
- Shift public policy to support biomass utilization and added value wood products

KEY MESSAGES

- Reduce wildfire risk
- Restore forests
- Create jobs

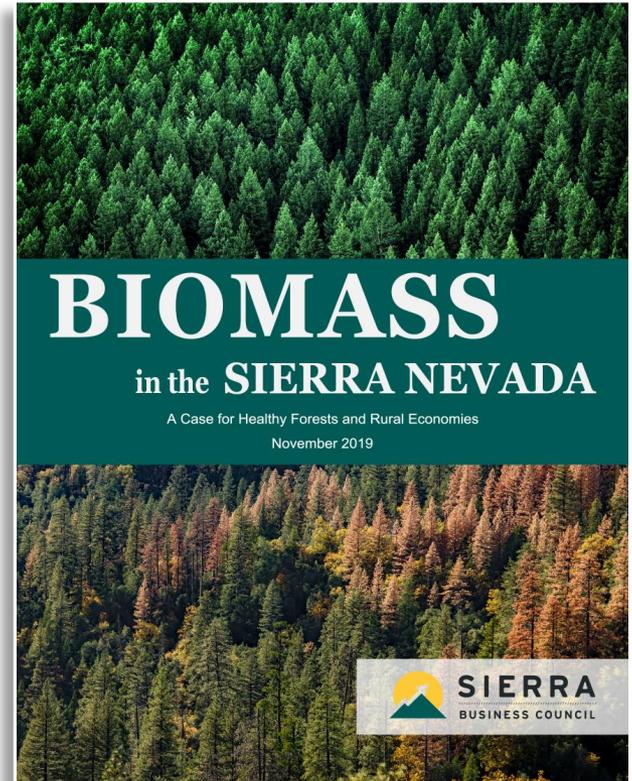
TARGET AUDIENCES

- Legislators, their staff, and state agencies
- NGO – Environmental justice, media, environmental orgs
- Communities with assets that will be impacted by the implementation of these policies

STATEWIDE MEDIA OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

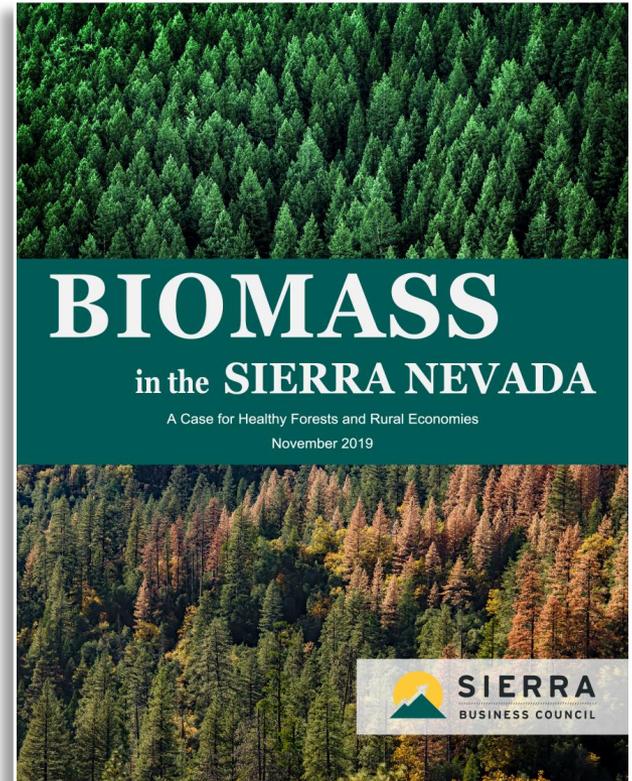
Key Points

- Wildfire is a massive issue in the state of CA.
- There is not enough state and federal funding to cover the forest restoration need.
- Biomass energy utilization (and added value wood products) offer a market mechanism to finance forest restoration.
- Biomass energy is dispatchable and a necessary part of the state's renewables mix.
- The cost of inaction is too high.



How's it going?

- Joint Institute for Wood Product Innovation cited the publication
- Brought to the Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies
- Bi-partisan appeal
- Environment justice



QUESTIONS?

