



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2023 Wood Innovation and Community Wood Grants

2/15/2023

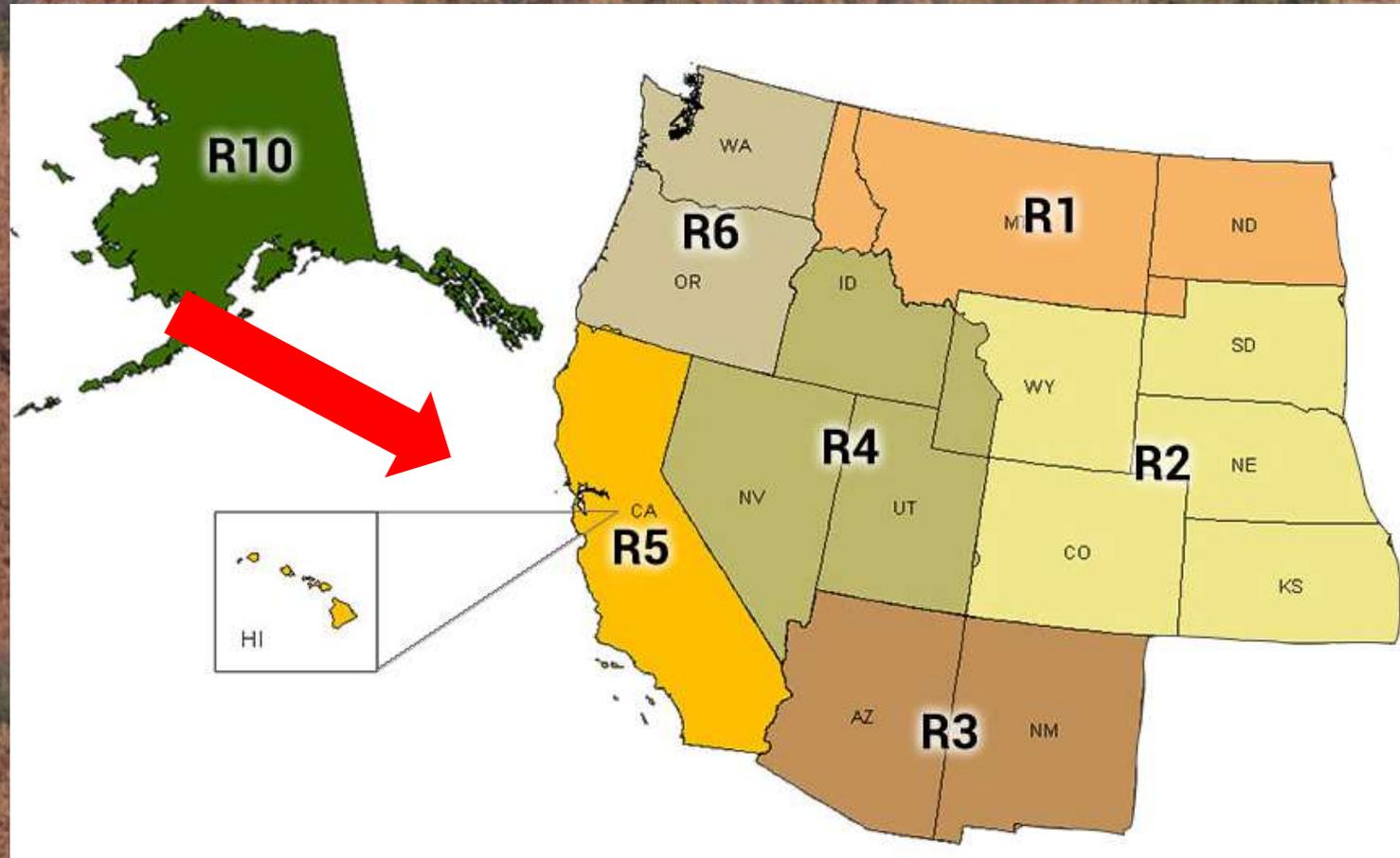
Helena Murray
USDA Forest Service
Region 5 State and Private Forestry

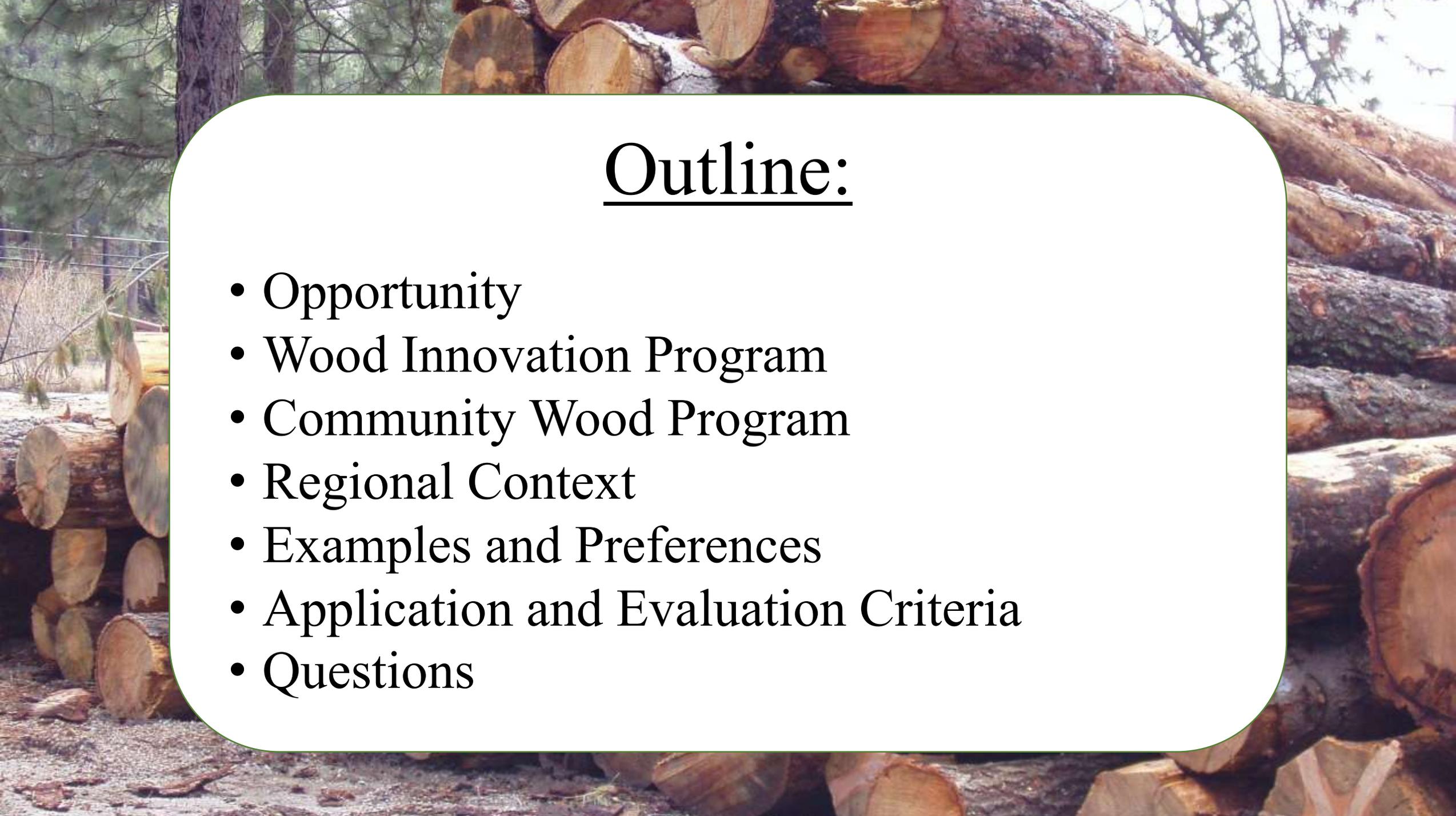
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Region 5: California, Hawaii and US Affiliated Pacific Islands





Outline:

- Opportunity
- Wood Innovation Program
- Community Wood Program
- Regional Context
- Examples and Preferences
- Application and Evaluation Criteria
- Questions

Opportunities

- Up to **\$24 million** available nationally for Wood Innovations Grants
 - Up to \$300,000 per proposal
- Up to **\$17 million** available nationally for Community Wood grants
 - Up to \$1 million per proposal

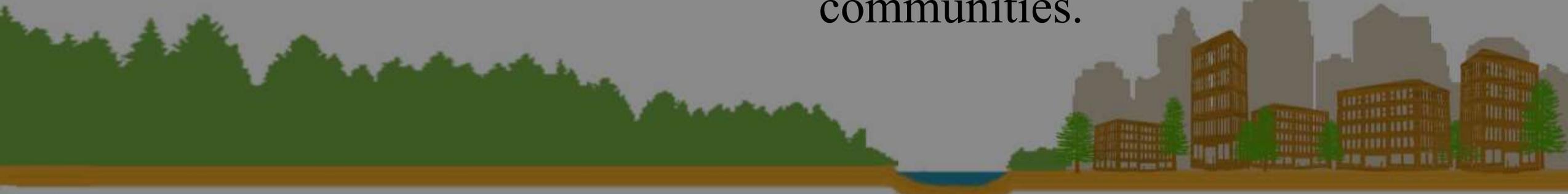


Purpose:

Significantly stimulate or expand wood products markets and wood energy markets to support the long-term management of National Forest System and other forest lands.

Priorities:

- Reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health on National Forest System and other forest lands.
- Reduce costs of forest management on all land types.
- Promote economic and environmental health of communities.

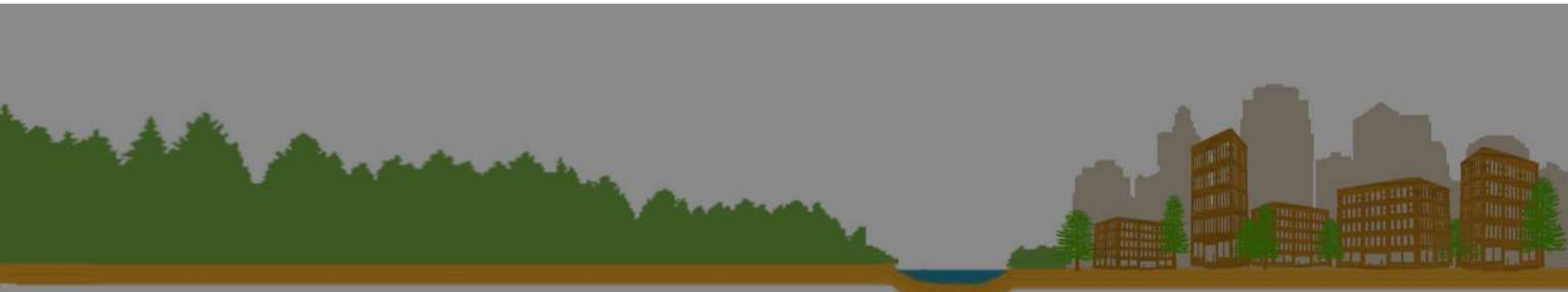




USDA Forest Service
Wood Innovations

2022 Wood Innovation Grant

- Up to \$24 million total
- Individual awards up to \$300,000
- 100% match required (1:1)
- National competition
- Equipment now allowed (there are strings attached)



NEW Wood Innovations Exception

Wood Innovations funding of up to \$1,000,000 is available for a stationary wood energy system rated greater than 5 Megawatts in thermal output if it meets one of the following criteria:

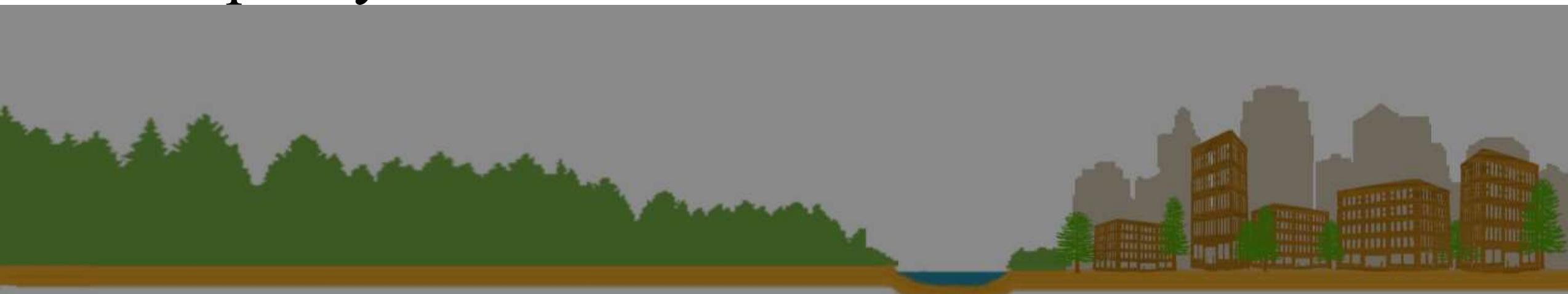
- A thermal energy system that converts 50% or more of the input energy to useful thermal energy; or
- A thermally led combined heat and power system that produces electricity in addition to useful thermal energy. Thermally led means that the production of useful thermal energy determines the amount of electricity produced and the system must convert 50% or more of the input energy to useful energy (generated useful thermal energy and electricity).



USDA Forest Service
Wood Innovations

Community Wood Grant

Support forest health and stimulate local economies by expanding renewable wood energy use and innovative wood products manufacturing capacity





Community Wood Grant

- “Shovel-ready” projects only (must be completed during grant period- no additional time or funding required)
- Up to \$1 million/ project, up to \$17 million nationally
- Up to 35% of the total capital costs of completing the project
- No formal matching funds
 - BUT- 100% of total costs to complete the project must be accounted for (leveraging)
 - R5 requires same documentation for leveraged funds or as otherwise agreed upon

California

- Catastrophic wildfires - Over 2.5 million acres burned and 3,600 structures damaged or destroyed in 2021, and over 4 million acres burned and 10,000 structures damaged or destroyed in 2020
- Large-Scale Tree Mortality - Drought and bark beetles (over 190 million dead trees since 2010)
- USFS/State of California – Gov. Newsom and the USFS signed an agreement in 2020 to work together to treat 1 million acres of forest annually
- Excess Biomass - Forest restoration treatments and fire salvage could produce millions of tons of woody biomass each year

California

Priority: Increase **pace** and **scale** of forest treatment and restoration, and/or utilize salvage timber and biomass from wildfires where local capacity is limited

AND/OR show a clear path to significant future opportunities for wood and biomass utilization

Priority: Projects with a clear and measurable impact on Carbon and Climate goals, and Underserved Communities

California Resources

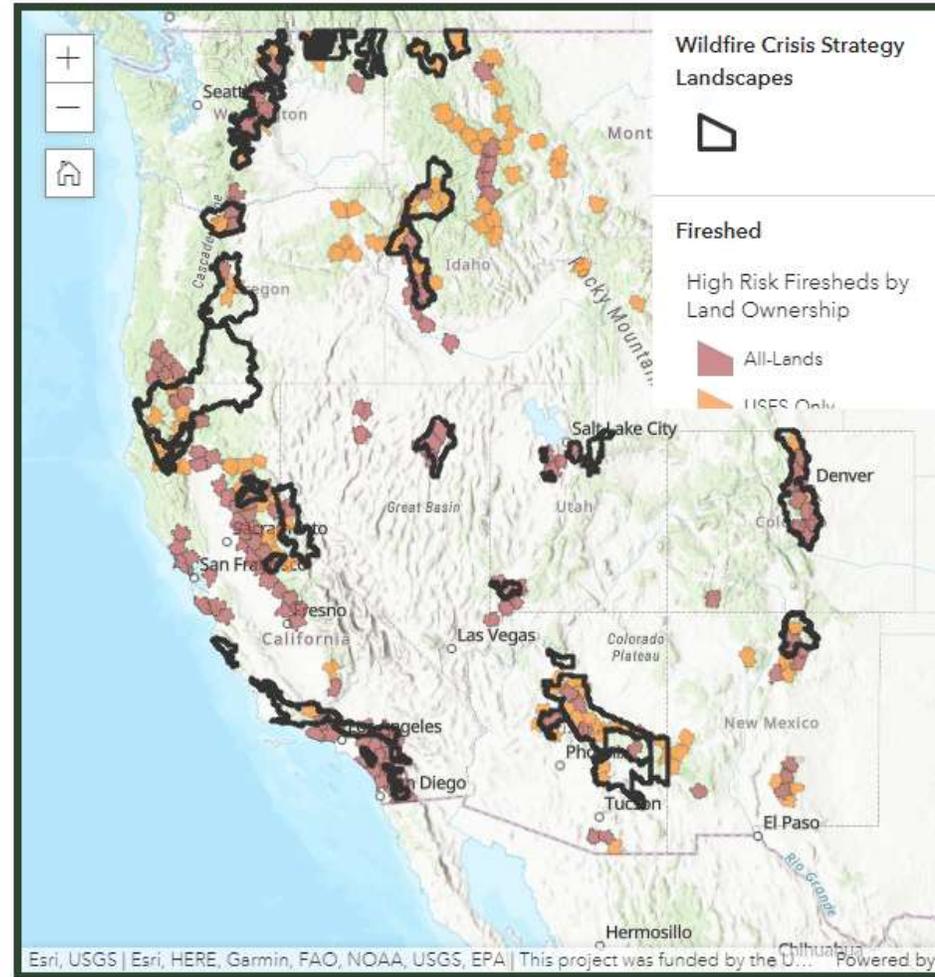
- USFS/ State of CA Shared Stewardship Agreement:
<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/8.12.20-CA-Shared-Stewardship-MOU.pdf>
- Page 40 of the CA Forest Carbon Plan <http://resources.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/California-Forest-Carbon-Plan-Final-Draft-for-Public-Release-May-2018.pdf>
- Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Action Plan
<https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/ps4p2vck/californiawildfireandforestresilienceactionplan.pdf>

THE WILDFIRE CRISIS STRATEGY

INITIAL LANDSCAPE INVESTMENTS

Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Congress appropriated \$1.4 billion to start putting our Wildfire Crisis Strategy into action with investments on 10 landscapes in 8 Western States. With \$1.8 billion in additional funding under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, we have selected 11 additional landscapes in 69 fireheds for treatment, with total of 21 landscapes operating under a mix of BIL and IRA funds.

In addition to wildfire exposure to buildings, our selection criteria in FY23 included protecting at-risk communities, critical infrastructure, public water sources, and proximity to Tribal lands. We listened to our employees, our partners, and Tribes on what mattered most to them, where opportunity exists, and where challenges remain. Their feedback and our experience on these landscapes helped us identify both challenges to implementation and conditions that can lead to future success.



<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/0fe032e92fad464fbcdd7faf12cd7928/page/Initial-Landscape-Investments/>

Wood Innovation Preferences

- Supply from National Forest System and other lands with high fire risk
- Ability to aid with wildfire recovery efforts
- Immediate and measurable results
- Support disadvantaged/ underserved communities

Community Wood Examples

Building or upgrading a facility that will be operational within the grant period

- Sawmill upgrades in low-income area
- Installing a new wood fired boiler for heat
- Wood products manufacturing facility
- Biofuels facility that will use forest wood

CAUTION

**Wood Innovations and Community Wood
are 2 different programs with different
applications!**

THE APPLICATION NARRATIVE IS NOW A FORM



WOOD INNOVATIONS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (FY 2023)

Reference Public Law 115-334 Sec. 9013, 117-58 Div. J, Title VI, 117-169 Sec. 23002, and
7 U.S.C. Sec. 8112

FS-1500-0050 (REV. 12/2022)
OMB #: 0596-0256
OMB Exp. Date: 07/31/2023

Cover Page for Part 1: Cooperator Contact Information

Ensure that your organization is registered with the System for Award Management (SAM), which is located at <https://sam.gov/>. DO NOT go through a third party that may charge for registration. There is no charge for registering at [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov/). This process may take time, so please **register immediately**.

1. Project Title:
2. Project Type (choose one): Wood Products Wood Energy
3. Project Cost & Cooperator Funding
 - A. Cooperator Funding (Amount of matching funds): \$ 0.00
 - B. Requested Forest Service Funding: \$ 0.00
 - C. Cooperator Funding as a Percentage of Requested Forest Service Funding (A+B x 100): 0%
 - D. Total Project Cost (A + B): \$ 0.00
4. Contact Information
Financial Agreement Applicant (Responsible official for the financial administration of the project)
Name: Title:
Organization/Company:
Street Address/P.O. Box:
City, State Zip:

Application Instructions

- **Two parts**, both submitted in PDF format
- **DO NOT FORGET THE FINANCIAL FORMS**
- Appendices – Specific info is required – **read directions.**



USDA Forest Service Wood Innovations

- Application due to Helena (Helena.Murray@usda.gov) on **March 23rd, 2023 at 5pm**

Application instructions and details can be found here:

- <https://www.fs.usda.gov/science-technology/energy-forest-products/wood-innovation>



Application Review Process

- Forest Service Regional Office
- Federal Expert Panel
- Forest Service Leadership Decision
- USDA Review

Successful Applicant Announcement and Grant Award

- Approximate Announcement Date
May or June, 2023
- Approximate Award Date
August or September, 2023

A large stack of cut logs in a forest setting. The logs are piled high, showing their circular cross-sections. The background consists of tall, thin trees, likely pines, under a bright sky. The overall scene is a natural, outdoor setting for a wood-related presentation.

Questions?

Helena Murray

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707-980-2375

Wood Innovations Homepage: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/science-technology/energy-forest-products/wood-innovation>