

# Producing Energy; Protecting Forests

Issues and Opportunities for Wood Biomass

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finding the ways that work



Biomass: Issues and Opportunities

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Biomass: Issues and Opportunities

## Forests Don't Waste Wood

- Forests are not a waste product; nor unlimited.
- “The consensus among experts is that the absence of downed woody debris would be detrimental to biodiversity and ecological processes.” (Dr. Hess, NC Chip Mill Study, 2000)

Biomass: Issues and Opportunities

## Site-level Sustainability

- Water Quality (Hagan and Grove, 1999)
- Wildlife Habitat
  - Birds (Lohr et al, 2002)
  - Mammals (Loeb, 1999; Mengak et al, 2003)
- Soil Nutrients (McComb and Lindenmayer, 1999)
- Formation of Organic Soils (Fuhrman, 2004)

Biomass: Issues and Opportunities

Are existing water quality BMPs sufficient when/if a robust wood biomass market emerges?



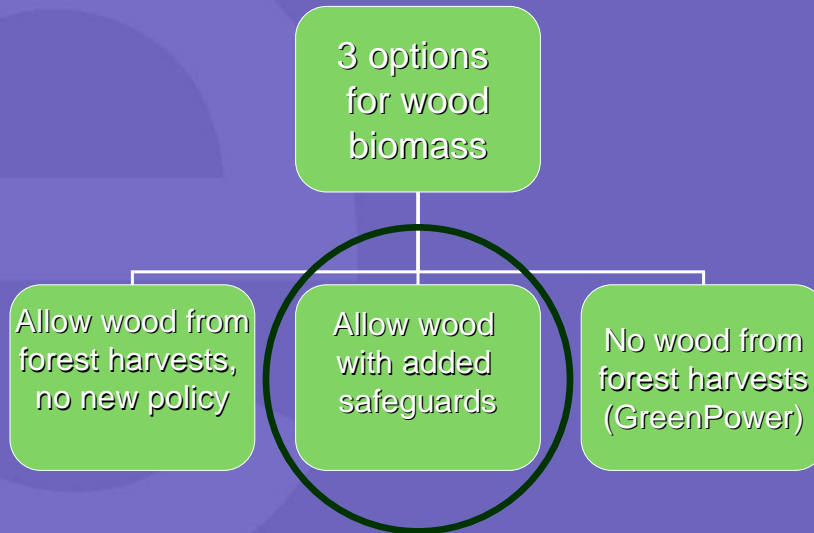
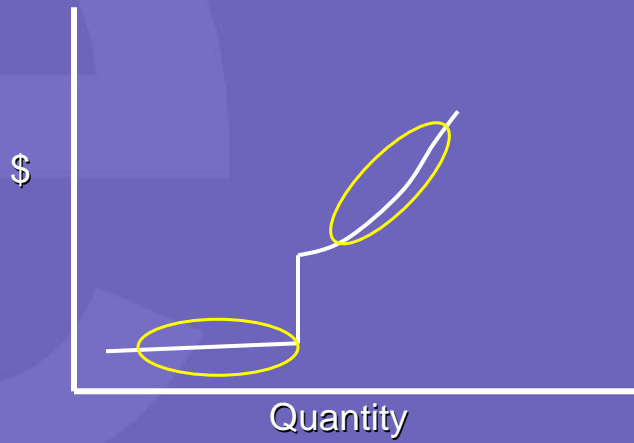
Biomass: Issues and Opportunities

## Facility Type, Size and Spatial Distribution Matters



Biomass: Issues and Opportunities

# Wood Biomass Supply Curve



## Elements of wood energy policy:

- 1) Adequate mechanisms to protect water quality;
- 2) Sufficient safeguards for wildlife;
- 3) Policies to minimize landscape impacts;
- 4) Consideration of water supply constraints;
- 5) Protection of air quality;
- 6) Landowner education and technical assistance;
- 7) An appropriate role for public incentives; and
- 8) A well funded research agenda.

## Questions?

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