

**Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310**

**For Immediate Release
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06-61**

Forest Biomass Group meets July 26, Salem

The Forest Biomass Working Group will hear how a southern Oregon firm has registered business success in converting biomass to energy when it meets on Wednesday, July 26, in the Tillamook Room - Building C, at Oregon Department of Forestry headquarters, 2600 State St. in Salem. The meeting will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is open to the public.

Gordon Draper, vice-president of White City-based Biomass One, will speak on "Extraction and production infrastructure development." His company operates a 25-megawatt, wood waste-fired cogeneration plant that annually recovers 355,000 tons of wood waste and produces enough energy to meet the needs of more than 20,000 homes.

The 30-member Working Group was formed by the Oregon Department of Forestry last fall to foster development of a viable biomass industry in the state using previously unmerchantable raw material from the forest.

Working Group member Tad Mason and David Van't Hof, sustainability policy advisor to Gov. Ted Kulongoski, will give an update on work recently completed on renewable energy by the Western Governors' Association.

Several subcommittees of the Forest Biomass Working Group will report on their ongoing work projects.

Accommodations for people with disabilities, and special materials, services or assistance can be arranged by calling the Department of Forestry's Forest Resources Planning Program at least 48 hours before the meeting - (503) 945-7411, text telephone (503) 945-7213 (in Salem).

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