

## Grants Available for Utilizing Woody Biomass from National Forest Lands

The USDA Forest Service has announced Woody Biomass Utilization Grants. This grant program is intended to help improve forest restoration activities by using and creating markets for small-diameter material and low-value trees removed from forest restoration activities. In other words, these funds are to be used to improve utilization and create markets for residues from fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands into marketable forest products and/or energy products.

Goals of the grant program are the following:

- Help reduce forest management costs by increasing value of biomass and other forest products generated from forest restoration activities.
- Create incentives and/or reduce business risk for increased use of biomass from national forestlands (must include National Forest System lands, however, may also include other lands such as, BLM, Tribal, State, local, and private).
- Institute projects that target and help remove economic and market barriers to using small-diameter trees and woody biomass.
- Build industry infrastructure around national forestlands where no or limited industry infrastructure exists
- Expand working relationships between local forest products businesses and Forest Service offices

**Grant Name:** Woody Biomass Utilization Grants

**Funding Agency:** USDA, Forest Service

**Due Date:** Pre-application – November 7, 2008; Full application – February 13, 2009

**Eligible Applicants:** State, local, and Tribal governments, school districts, communities, non-profit organizations, businesses, companies, corporations, or special purpose districts, i.e., public utilities districts, fire districts, conservation districts, or ports

**Size and Range of Awards:** \$50,000 - \$250,000; \$4 million is available

**Cost Sharing:** at least a 20% match of the total project cost is required

**Website:** <http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/tmu> (includes a link to the Federal Register for a full RFP)