

Forestry IS rocket science: quantifying logging residues as feedstock for bio-jet and other uses

United States
Department of
Agriculture

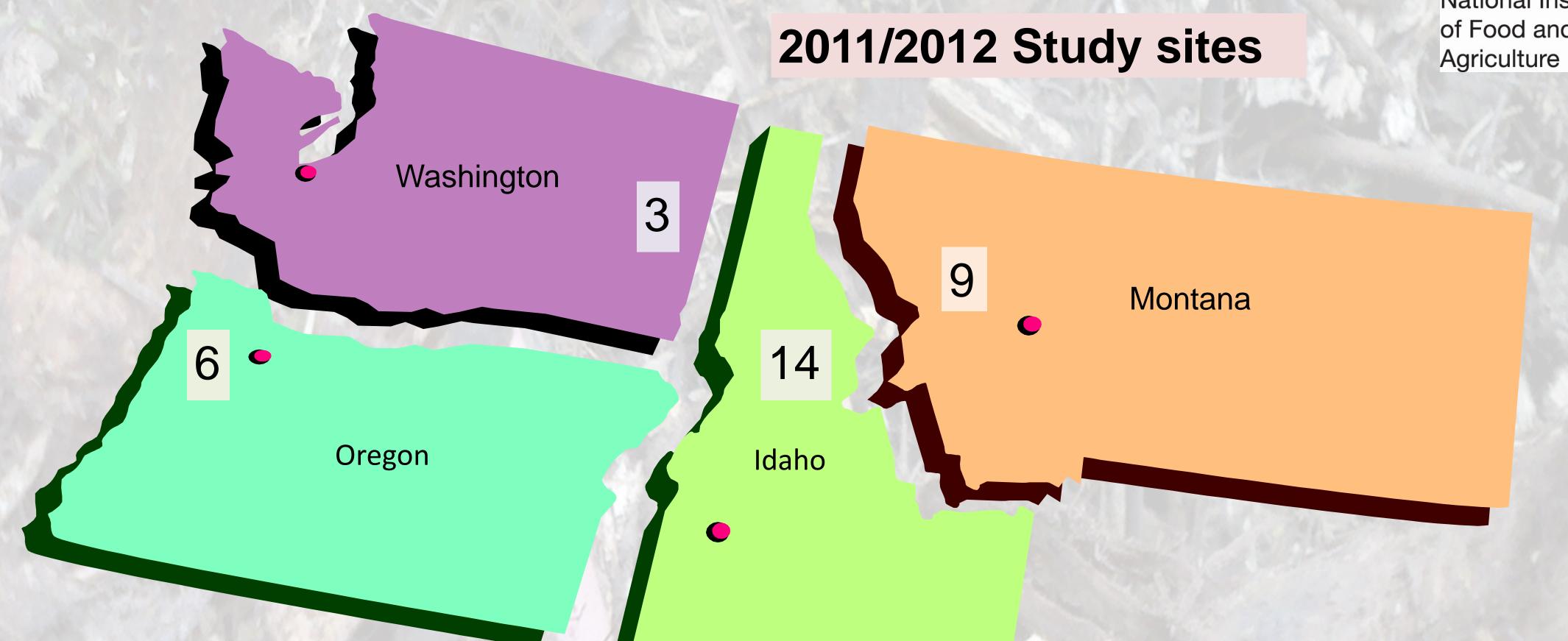
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National Institute of Food and

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The role of Logging utilization studies in NARA

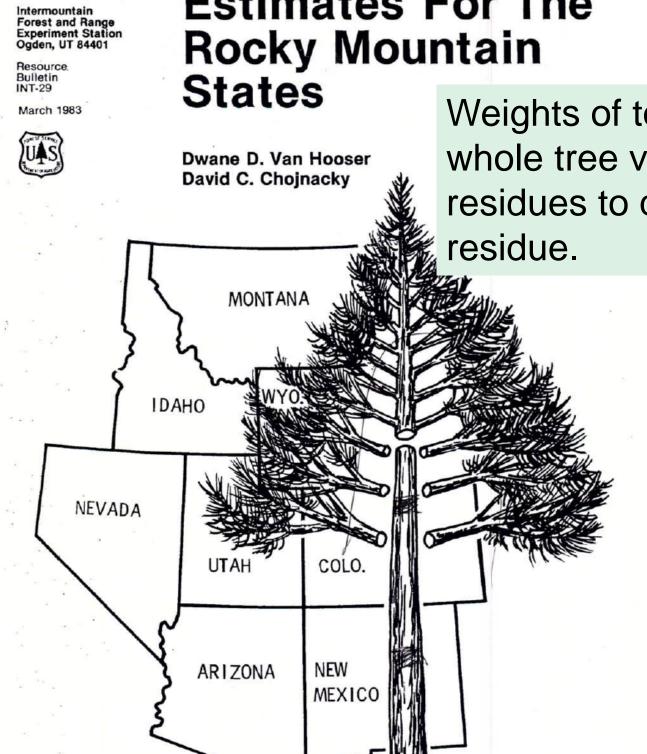
Logging utilization studies yield bole volumes of commercially harvested trees delivered to the mill versus bole volumes left in the forest as logging residue. When combined with data from other sources, these volumes can be used to estimate total tree (bole residues, tops and limbs) residue biomass. The authors used the results of a recent Idaho logging utilization study to perform this analysis. Because this research draws data from more than 30 randomly selected logging sites and over 700 felled sample trees per state, researchers can quantify residues at a variety of spatial scales. Land managers can use this information to make informed decisions on how to manage woody biomass residues for bioenergy applications at the stand, landscape, or state level.



Step 1: Converting cubic volumes

| 2008/2011 Idaho logging utilization study results | | | | | |
|---|----------|------------|--|--|--|
| Total volume of | | | | | |
| sampled harvest | Cubic ft | Green tons | | | |
| trees | | | | | |
| Mill delivered volume | 32,476 | 812 | | | |
| Bole residue | 795 | 20 | | | |

Step 2: Adding in tops and limbs



Whole Tree Volume Estimates For The Rocky Mountain

Weights of tops and limbs calculated from whole tree volume estimates are added to bole residues to quantify total biomass from logging

Literature cited

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Estimates of total logging residue for private lands in Idaho by county based on commercial timber harvest volume

| County | harves | Timber t volume IBF | Total lo | in green |
|------------|--------|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| Adams | | 9,118 | | 14,826 |
| Bannock | | 88 | | 143 |
| Bear Lake | | 0 | | 0 |
| Benewah | | 111,670 | | 181,575 |
| Bingham | | 0 | | 0 |
| Boise | | 18,927 | | 30,775 |
| Bonner | | 44,118 | | 71,735 |
| Bonneville | | 60 | | 98 |
| Boundary | | 16,522 | | 26,865 |
| Camas | | 0 | | 0 |
| Caribou | | 300 | | 488 |
| Clark | | 0 | | 0 |
| Clearwater | | 138,950 | | 225,933 |
| Elmore | | | | |
| Sub total | | 339,753 | | 552,438 |
| y . | MBF | BF Residue | | |
| Total | | 562,537 | | 914,685 |

bole

residue

Step 3: Calculating biomass factors

limbs

Total biomass as logging residue

tops

| County | 2010 Timber harvest volume MBF | Total logging residue in green tons |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fremont | 76 | 124 |
| Idaho | 13,799 | 22,437 |
| Kootenai | 38,767 | 63,035 |
| Latah | 54,853 | 89,191 |
| Lemhi | 0 | 0 |
| Lewis | 1,742 | 2,832 |
| Madison | 0 | 0 |
| Nez Perce | 888 | 1,444 |
| Owyhee | 0 | 0 |
| Shoshone | 91,880 | 149,398 |
| Teton | 0 | 0 |
| Valley | 20,723 | 33,695 |
| Washington | 56 | 92 |
| | 222,784 | 362,247 |

Idaho logging residue by ownership

| | MBF | green tons |
|---------|---------|------------|
| Private | 562,536 | 914,684 |
| State | 260,660 | 423,833 |
| Federal | 96,350 | 156,665 |
| Total | 919,546 | 1,495,182 |

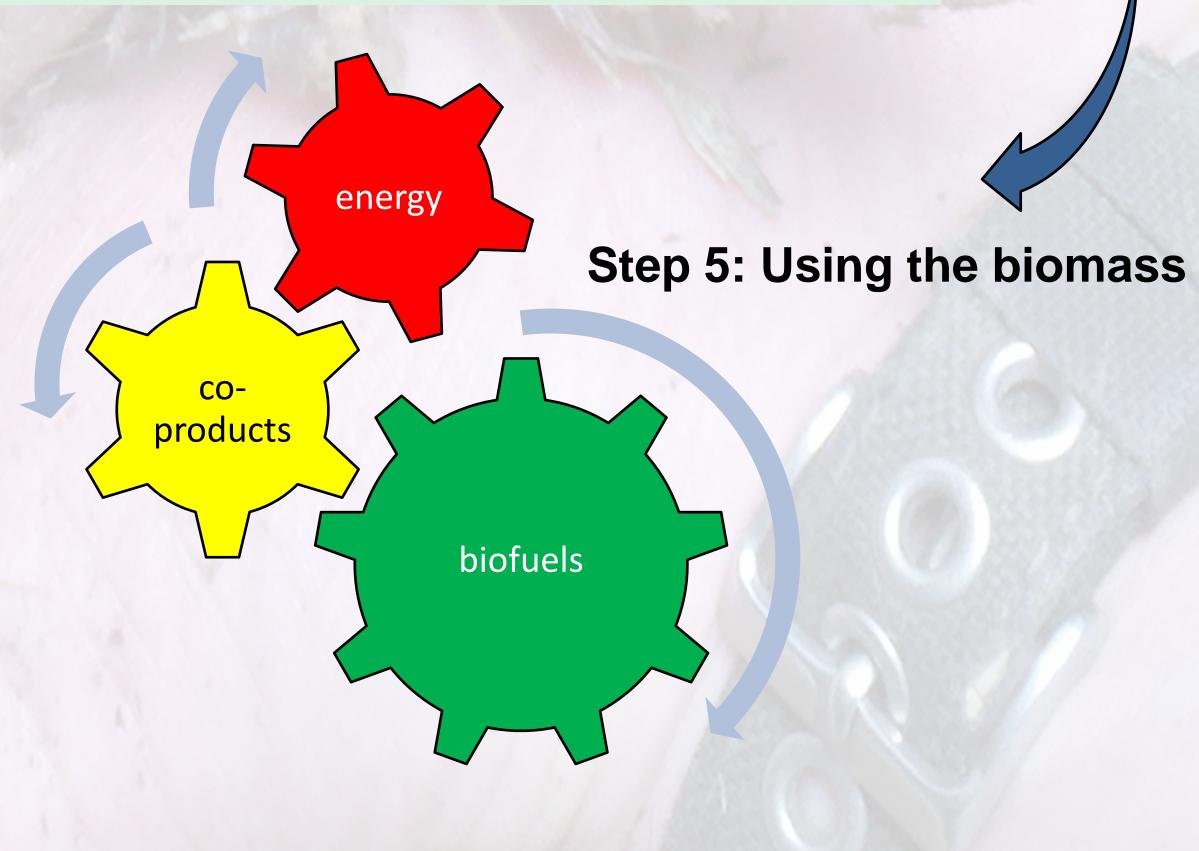






Step 4: Using the factors

Biomass factors can be applied to other data such as timber harvest by county or ownership to estimate total logging residue biomass.



The ratio of the volume of total biomass as logging residue to mill delivered volume provides biomass factors for the following units of measure that can be used to estimate logging residue at varying spatial scales.

0.26 green tons residue per green ton mill delivered volume

6.5 green tons residue per MCF (1,000 cubic ft.) mill delivered volume

1.6 green tons residue per MBF Scribner mill delivered volume

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Oregon Department of Forestry

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Cooperating private landowners