

# QUINAULT INDIAN NATION BIOMASS FEASIBILITY STUDY



**Quinault Indian Nation  
Business Committee  
April 9, 2012**

# Presentation Overview

- Study Objectives
- Biomass Availability and Cost Analysis
- Key Environmental Issues and Opportunities
- Site Review and Selection
- Technology Selection and Financial Analysis
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgements



# Project Sponsors



COLUMBIA-PACIFIC  
RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT &



# Project Cooperators



# Study Objectives

- What is the long-term sustainably available volume of forest biomass that is potentially available from the QIN Reservation?
- What are the costs to collect, process and transport forest biomass for value-added uses?
- What value-added forest biomass utilization technologies and business models (scaled for sustainability and matched to local resources) have the highest potential for success?
- Which Tribal business models are complementary and coordinated in a way that employment and revenue generation are optimized?

**QUINAULT INDIAN RESERVATION**

Olympic National Forest

Olympic National Pa

101

109

**QUINAULT RESERVATION**

Olympic NP

Seattle Metro Ar

Olympic NF

10

5

14

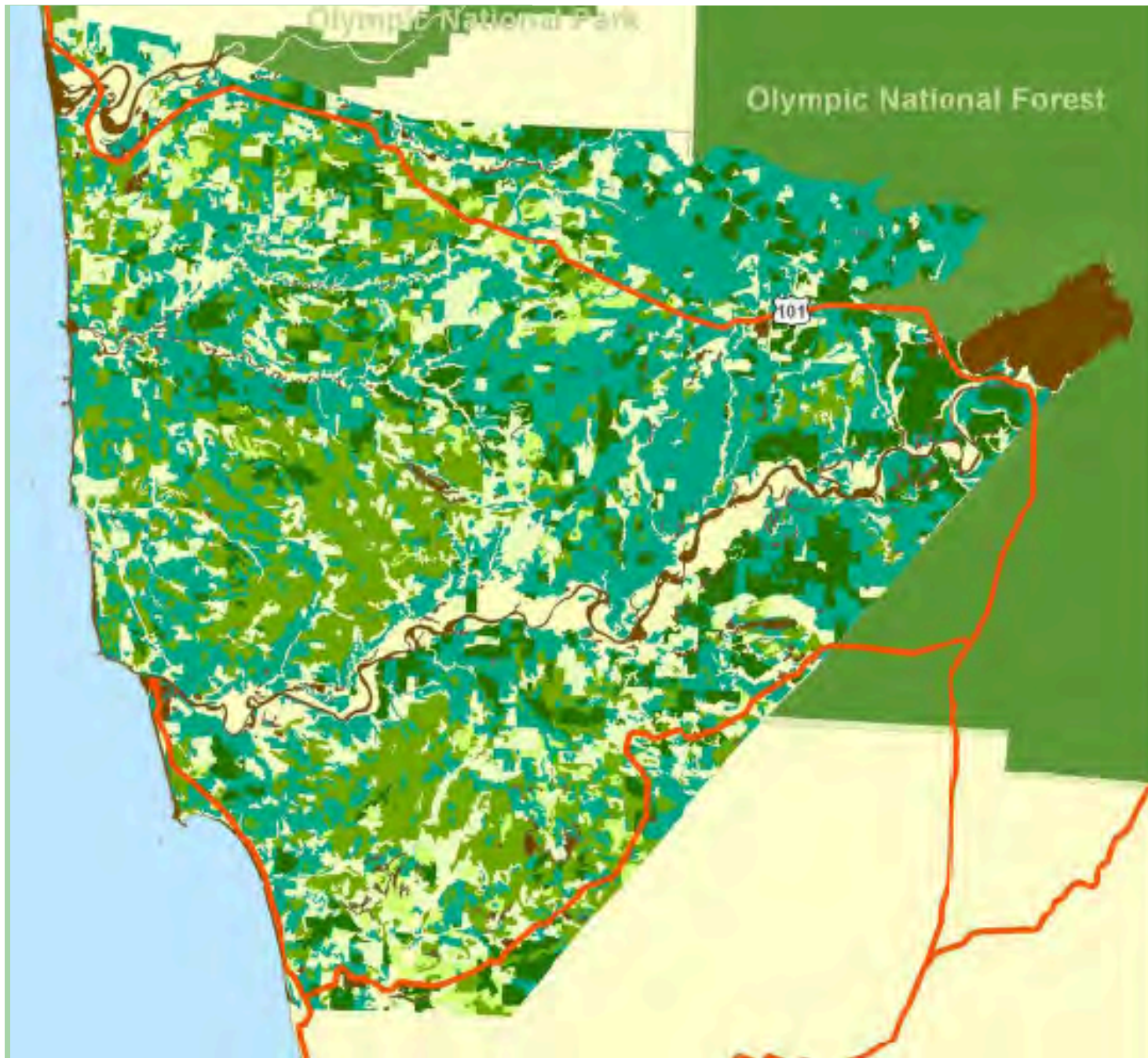
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# Forest Cover on the QIN Reservation

<b>COVER CATEGORIES</b>	<b>ACRES</b>	<b>PERCENT OF TOTAL</b>
Forest Cover	196,675	95%
Non-Forest	10,595	5%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>207,270</b>	<b>100%</b>



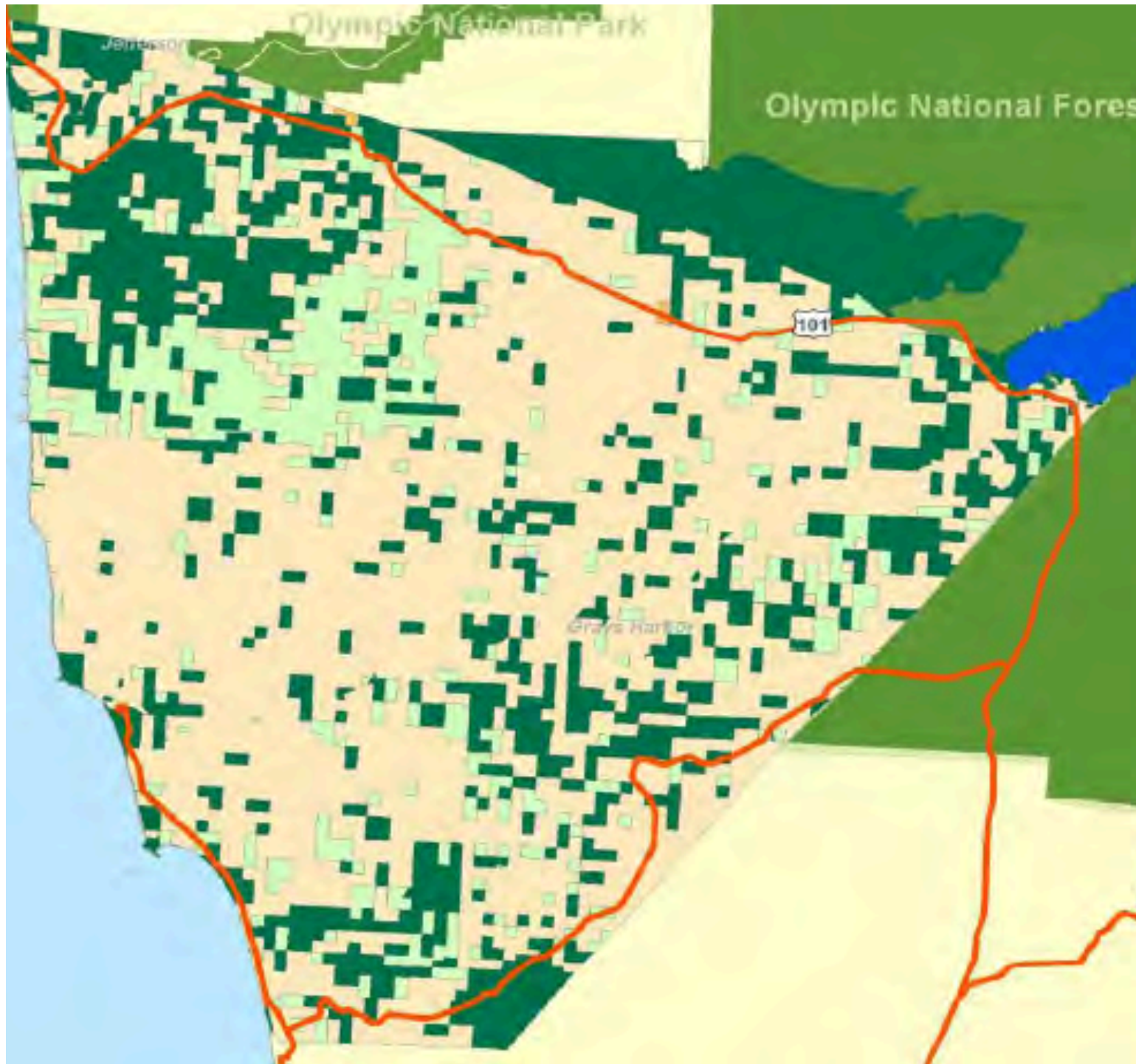
- Western Hemlock
- Lodgepole Pine
- Non-Forest
- Western Red Cedar
- Mixed Conifer
- Douglas-fir
- Hardwood





## Vegetation Cover - Detail

<b>PRIMARY FOREST SPECIES</b>	<b>ACRES</b>	<b>PERCENT OF TOTAL</b>
Western hemlock	75,147	36%
Western red cedar	38,687	19%
Mixed Conifer	35,020	17%
Douglas-fir	24,160	12%
Hardwoods	17,388	8%
Non-Forest	10,595	5%
Lodgepole pine	6,273	3%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>207,270</b>	<b>100%</b>



- QUINALT INDIAN NATION
- BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS TRUST
- LEE OWNED ALLOTMENT
- OTHER OWNERSHIP

# Biomass Availability Operable Acres

OWNERSHIP	OPERABLE ACRES	PERCENT OF TOTAL
Quinault Indian Nation	44,260	28%
Bureau of Indian Affairs (Trust)	92,790	59%
Fee Allotments	20,089	13%
Other	124	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>157,263</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Filters Used to Determine Available Forest Biomass

- Vegetation Cover – conifer forest veg cover has the highest potential to provide sustainable quantities of forest biomass and small logs over time (depending on land management objectives).
- Account for topography and forest road systems.
- Forecast based on current forest restoration, fuels treatment and forest harvest trends.
- Base recovery metrics on actual experience and local knowledge.



# Forest Biomass Availability

<b>BIOMASS SOURCE</b>	<b>POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE (BDT/YEAR)</b>	<b>PRACTICALLY AVAILABLE (BDT/YEAR)</b>
Quinault Indian Nation	13,100	5,460
Bureau of Indian Affairs	20,650	8,600
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>33,750</b>	<b>14,060</b>



# Forest Biomass Collection, Processing and Transport Costs

<b>BIOMASS RECOVERY METHOD</b>	<b>LOW RANGE \$/BDT</b>	<b>HIGH RANGE \$/BDT</b>
Alternative 1	\$32	\$52
Alternative 2	\$42	\$63

## Value-Added Uses Considered

- QIN Biomass Processing Enterprise
- Residential Fuel Pellets
- Densified Fuel Logs
- Small-Scale Biomass Combined Heat and Power
- Thermal Energy Facility for Tribal Facilities

# Thermal Energy for Tribal Buildings – Existing and Planned

- **Site Review and Selection**
  - Land Use Zoning
  - Transportation Routes
  - Public Health and Safety
  - Water Supply Resources
  - Geology/Soils
  - Cultural Resources
  - Potential Co-Location Opportunities
    - Crane Creek
    - Taholah







QIN Administration Complex

QIN Health Center

Hot water supply/  
cold water return  
pipeline

Approximate  
location of other  
proposed QIN  
buildings

Approximate  
location of  
biomass thermal  
facility

Approximate  
location of  
proposed school

# Technology Selection and Financial Analysis

- **Two technologies considered:**
  - Skanden
    - Multiple Boiler System
  - Messersmith
    - Single Boiler System
    - Currently Installed at Forks High School



## Buildings to be Heated

<b>BUILDING</b>	<b>SIZE (Sq Ft)</b>
Administration Complex	59,608
Health Center	28,485
School	25,000
Emergency Services	14,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127,093</b>



# Cost of the Messersmith System

ITEM	COST
Furnace/Boiler 1.5 MMBtu/hour	\$456,000
Shipping	\$30,000
Pumps, Tanks Heat Exchanger, Building Retrofit	\$90,000
Piping	\$183,750
Back Up Heating - Electric	\$150,000
Subtotal	\$1,189,750
Contingency @ 10%	\$118,975
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,308,725</b>

# Annual Costs Using the Messersmith System (Assuming 80% Capital Grant and \$45/BDT Fuel)



BUILDINGS	CURRENT HEATING COSTS	PROJECTED HEATING COSTS	SAVINGS
Admin Complex	\$59,237		
Health Center	\$67,183		
<b>Existing Total</b>	<b>\$126,420</b>	<b>\$47,548</b>	<b>\$78,872</b>
School	\$14,287		
Emergency Services	\$23,997		
<b>Proposed Total</b>	<b>\$38,284</b>	<b>\$25,041</b>	<b>\$13,242</b>

# Recommendations

- Consider grant funding opportunities including:
  - USDA Great Regions
  - USFS Woody Biomass Utilization Grant
- Tour the Forks High School site and view Messersmith System first hand.
- Consider development of a communications plan to update Taholah community of the potential for a small biomass fired heating system.

# Acknowledgements

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