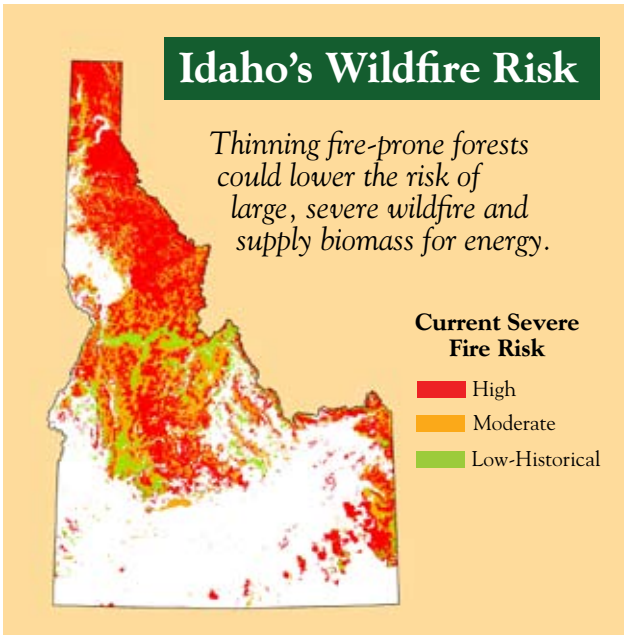
How Can We Get Green Power from Overcrowded Forests?

An estimated 8 million acres, about 36% of Idaho's forestland, could provide useful woody biomass through thinning to reduce risks of uncharacteristically large, severe forest fires. Most of these overly dense forests are federally owned and managed.



Short-Term Use

The best short-term use for woody biomass might be as a fuel for generating electricity and heat used in wood products manufacturing.

Long-Term Use

A potential long-term use is converting woody biomass to biofuels and bioproducts to replace fossil fuels.

The Woody Biomass Triple Win:

- ***Restore Forest Health, Fire Resiliency and Wildlife Habitat.***
- ***Help Meet Idaho's Energy Needs with a Renewable Resource.***
- ***Provide Hundreds of Jobs and Help Revitalize Rural Economies.***

Idaho's Growing Energy Needs

Thinning only the forests with the most need for hazardous fuel reduction over 22 years would provide enough woody biomass per year to generate about 90 megawatts of electricity. To put that in perspective, the use of electricity in Idaho currently is growing at a rate of about 32 megawatts per year.

Other sources of woody biomass include wood waste generated at wood products plants as well as juniper woodlands, logging slash and discarded wood and yard debris that often ends up in landfills.

IDAHO FOREST PRODUCTS Commission

Learn more at www.idahoforests.org