

Human Dimensions of Forest Bioproducts Thrust

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Thrust Goals

- Develop the understanding of:
 - *Social and cultural systems* that may influence the forest bioproducts industry,
 - *Human values and attitudes* regarding forest biomass, bioproduct production, and bioproducts,
 - *Social impacts* of forest bioproducts industry on individuals, groups, and communities, and
 - *Other human-related aspects* of forest bioproducts such as health, ethics, and/or communication/education.

Thrust Outcomes

- Long-term desired outcomes:
 - *Improved policies* for supporting socially desirable forest bioproducts initiatives,
 - *Improved communication* with landowners, community members, the general public and other stakeholders regarding forest bioproducts issues, and
 - *Improved methods* for integrating social science into the science and engineering of forest bioproducts.

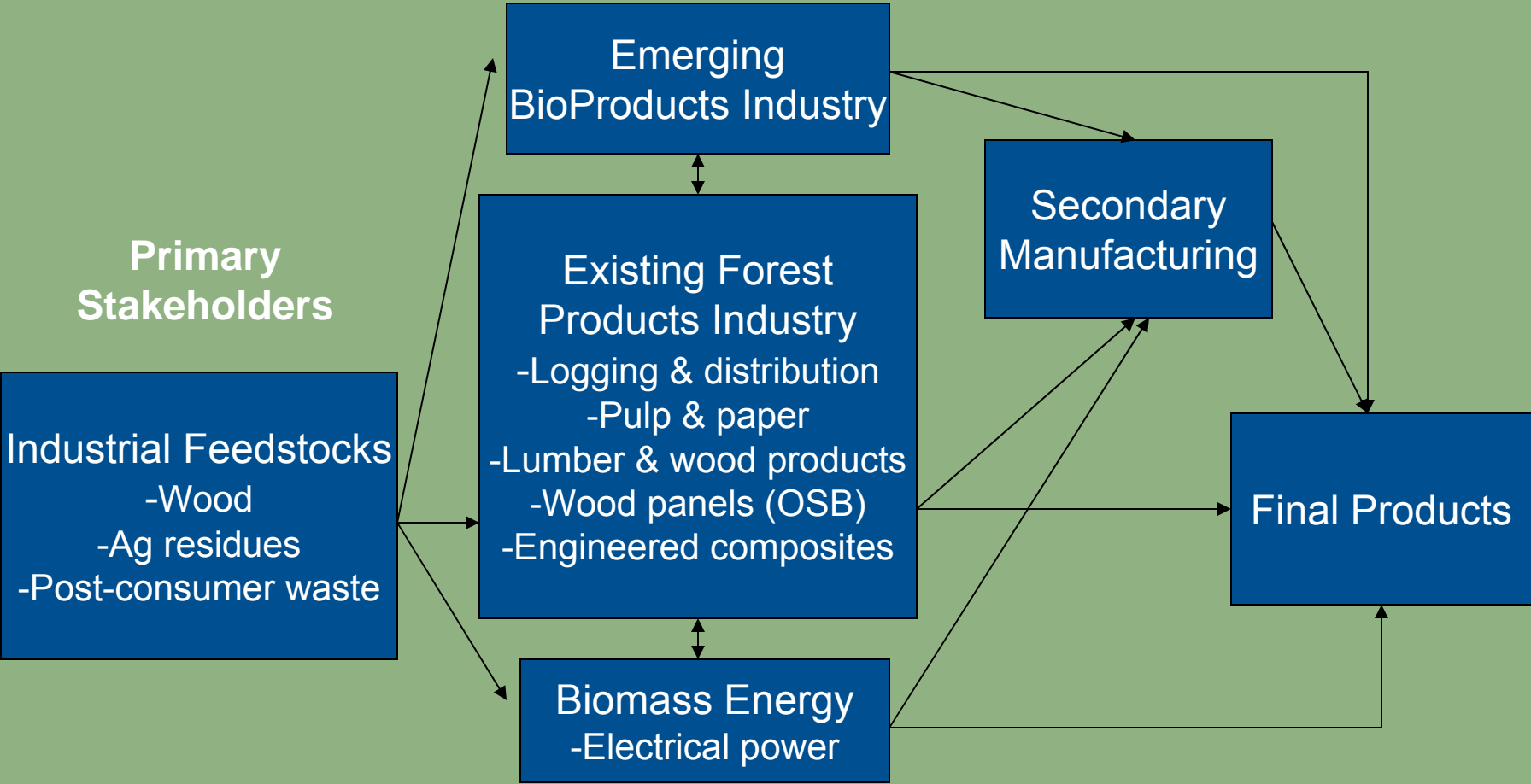
Timing

- ~ February 1st, 2007
 - Social Acceptability project starts
- ~ May 22nd, 2007
 - Human Dimensions of Forest Bioproducts Thrust created
- ~ September 1st, 2007
 - Jim Marciano (MS, Forest Resources) starts FBRI GRA position

Social Acceptability Project

- Identify Key Stakeholders & Issues
 - FBRI Brainstorming Sessions
 - AEWG and Nutting Hall locations
- Better Understand Issues, Concerns, Opportunities & Networks Related to Biomass Harvests & Bioproducts
 - Interview primary & secondary stakeholders
- Solicit Public Views, Knowledge & Opinions
 - General population mail survey

Social Acceptability Project



Social Acceptability Project

- Preliminary Results

Social Acceptability Project

- Stakeholder Interviews
 - Anticipated finished by September 1st
- Landowner Mail Survey (Heldmann)
 - Anticipated September 1st
 - Biomass harvest familiarity, interest & concerns
- Public Mail Survey (Marciano)
 - Anticipated October 1st
 - Comprehensive coverage of forest bioproducts knowledge & attitudes

Social Acceptability Project

- Faculty:
 - Rob Lilieholm, SFR
 - Jessica Leahy, SFR
 - Terry Porter, BUA
- Graduate Students:
 - Gretchen Heldmann, SFR
 - Ana Zivanovich, BUA
 - Julian Wiggins, SFR
- Undergraduate Students:
 - Nikki D'Alessandro, FES
 - Kersi Contractor, FTY



Social Acceptability Project

- Other Students:
 - Marilynne Mann (MS)
 - Brittany Hummel (MS)
 - Michael Shugrue (MS)
 - Nathan Briggs (MS)
 - Andrea Ednie (PhD)
 - Kevin Doran (PhD)
 - Katelyn Hartford (BS)
- Future Students:
 - Jim Marciano (MS – FBRI GRA)
 - Charles Ravis (PhD)
 - Jessica Jansujwicz (PhD)

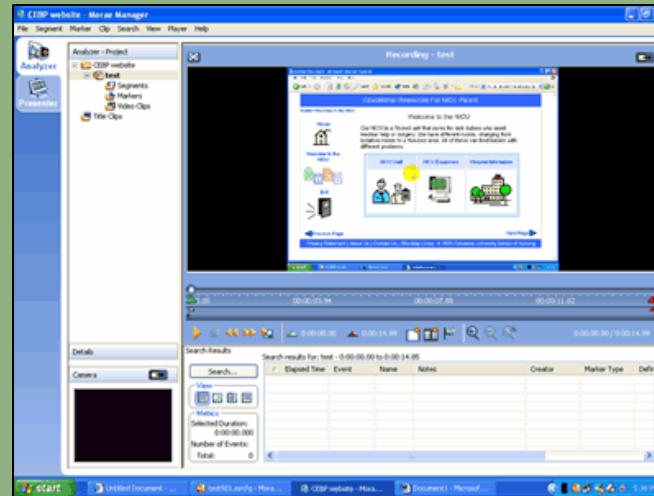


Social Acceptability Project

- 4/07 Implications of Land Use Change on Private Forest Land in the Urban/Rural Interface in Penobscot County, Maine. Poster presentation at the Symposium on Emerging Issues Along the Urban/Rural Interfaces, Atlanta, GA, April 9-12 (G. Heldmann presenting, with J. Leahy)
- 4/07 Land Use Change in the Penobscot River Watershed. Paper presentation at the Symposium on Emerging Issues Along the Urban/Rural Interfaces, Atlanta, GA, April 9-12 (R. Lilieholm presenting, with D. Hart and K.P. Bell).
- 6/07 Stakeholder Views towards Bioproducts and Biomass Harvesting in Maine. International Symposium on Society and Resource Management: Landscape Continuity and Change, Park City, UT (R. Lilieholm presenting, with J. Leahy and T. Porter).
- 7/07 Stakeholder Perceptions of BioProducts and Implications for UMaine's Forest Bioproduct Research Initiative. Invited presentation to the FBRI NSF/REU program (R. Lilieholm presenting, with J. Leahy and T. Porter).
- 10/07 Policy Options for Maine's Emerging Forest Bioproducts Industry. Conference on Bioproducts in the Northern Forest: Completing the Puzzle. Annual Meeting of the New England Chapter of the Forest Products Society, Bangor, ME. (R. Lilieholm presenting, with J. Leahy & T. Porter).
- 10/07 Social Acceptability of Biomass Harvests and Bioproducts Industry in Maine. Society of American Foresters National Convention, Portland, OR. (J. Leahy presenting, with R. Lilieholm & T. Porter)

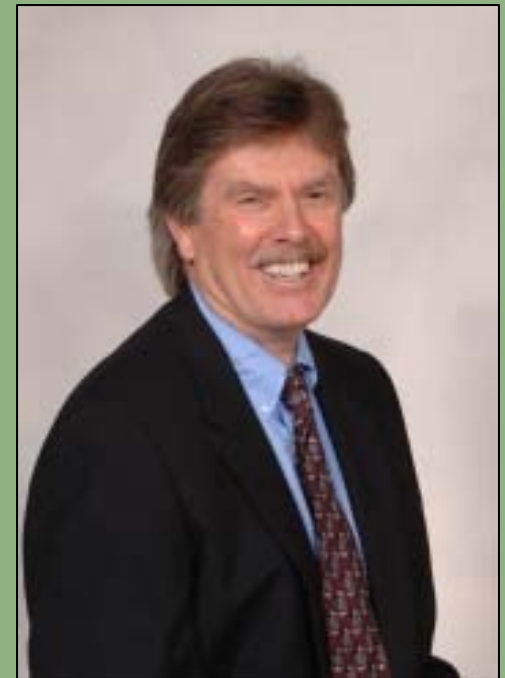
Thrust Plans for the Next Year

- NVivo 7 Software Training
 - Necessary for data analysis in social acceptability project
 - Increase research capacity broadly
 - 5 faculty, 2 research techs, 5 grad students



Thrust Plans for the Next Year

- Social Acceptability Expert
 - Dr. Bruce Shindler, Oregon State University
 - Advice via meetings with faculty
 - Public seminar as part of Forestry Seminar Series
 - Interaction with graduate students



Thrust Plans for the Next Year

- Stankey, G.H. and B. Shindler. 2006. Formation of social acceptability judgments and their implications for management of rare and little-known species. *Conservation Biology* 20:28-37.
- Howe, G., B. Shindler, B. Cashore, E. Hanson, D. Lach, and W. Armstrong. 2005. Public influences on plantation forestry. *Journal of Forestry* 103(2):92-96.
- Toman, E., B. Shindler, and M. Brunson. 2005. Fire and fuel management communication strategies: citizen evaluations of agency outreach activities. *Society and Natural Resources* 19:321-336.
- Toman, E., B. Shindler, and M. Reed. 2004. Prescribed fire: the influence of site visits on citizen attitudes. *The Journal of Environmental Education* 35(3):13-18.
- Shindler, B. and E. Toman. 2003. Fuel reduction strategies in forest communities: a longitudinal analysis of public support. *Journal of Forestry* 101(6):8-15.
- Shindler, B., M. Brunson, G. Stankey. 2002. Social acceptability of forest conditions and management practices: a problem analysis. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-537. Portland, OR: USDA Forest Service, PNW Research Station.
- Wright, A. and B. Shindler. 2001. The role of information sources in watershed management. *American Fisheries Journal* 26(11):16-23.
- Shindler, B.A. and L.A. Cramer. 1999. Shifting public values in forest management: making sense of wicked problems. *Western Journal of Applied Forestry*. 14(1):11-17.
- Shindler, B.A. and P.J. Collson. 1998. Assessing public preferences for ecosystem management principles. 1998. In D. Soden and B. Lamb (eds.) *Ecosystem Management: A Social Science Perspective*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing.
- Shindler, B.A., B.S. Steel, and P. List. 1996. Public judgments of adaptive management: an initial response from forest communities. *Journal of Forestry*. 94(6).

Thrust Plans for the Next Year

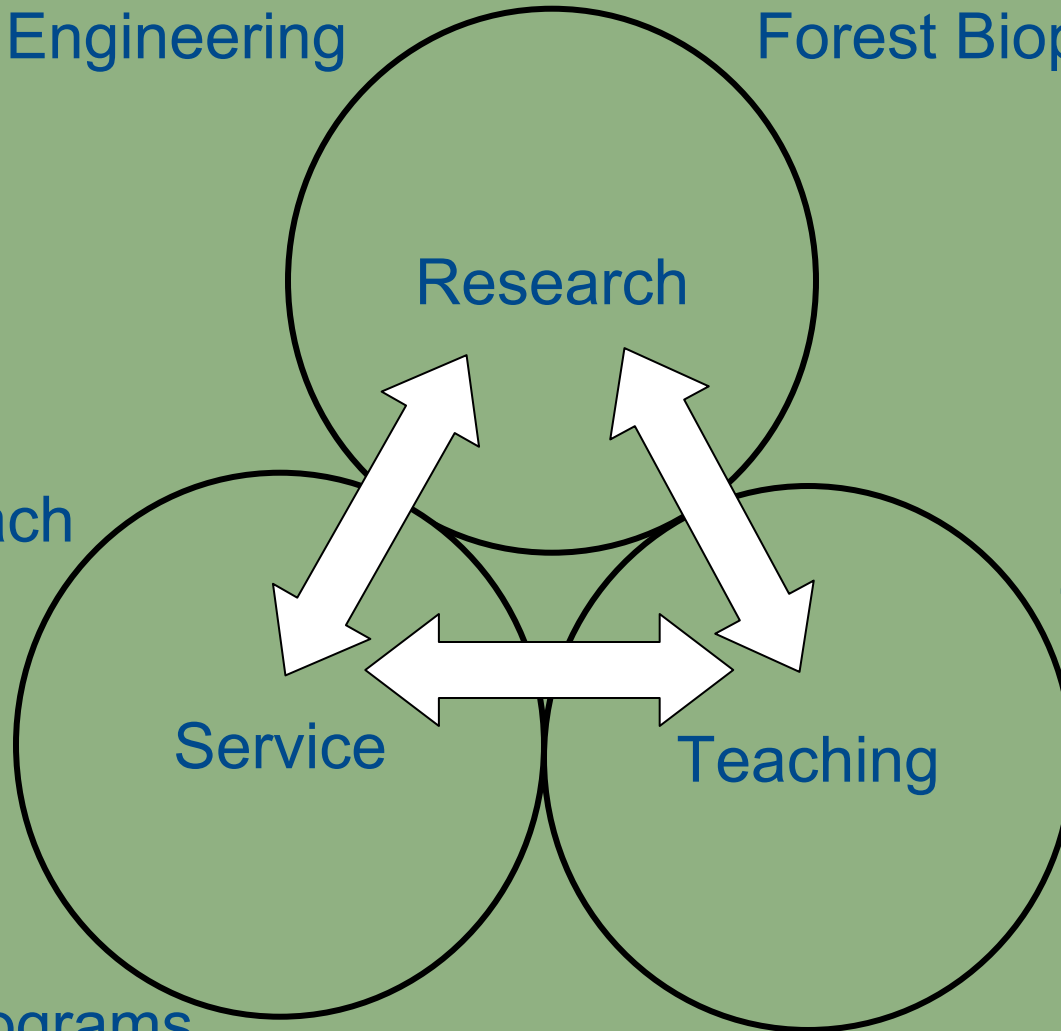
- Support Research Technician
 - RFP Searching
 - Literature Review Database
 - Proposal Writing Support
 - Newspaper Archiving
 - Data Collection & Analysis
 - Survey Administration
 - Assist with manuscripts
 - Assist with recruiting PhD students

Thrust Plans for Next Year

- Natural Resources Communications Service Learning Project
 - Upper-division class in Parks, Recreation & Tourism program 11 students currently enrolled
 - Application of communication theory & national certified interpretive guide training to FBRI topics

Forest Bioproducts
Science & Engineering

Human Dimensions of
Forest Bioproducts



Public Outreach

Communication
Theory

Environmental
Education

Prototype Programs,
Materials, Curriculum

Thrust Plans for Next Year

- Natural Resources Communications Service Learning Project
 - Children's Board Game
 - Public Service Announcement
 - Middle School Science Curriculum
 - On-Site Tour of Biomass Harvest

Thrust Plans for Next Year

- Travel
 - Focus on PhD student recruitment (see below)
- Encourage Additional Human Dimensions of Forest Bioproducts Research Projects
 - Build Thrust faculty & grad student membership
 - Identify critical research areas
 - Provide seed money
 - Support extramural grant efforts
 - Goal of ≥ 2 new projects (incl. GRAs)

Thrust Plans for Next Year

- Additional Human Dimensions of Forest Bioproducts Research Projects
 - Risk analysis & perceptions
 - Sustainable community development
 - Social impact assessment
 - Natural resources communication
 - Plus other opportunities...

Thrust Questions

- Questions?

