

## Missouri Fuels for Schools Project Statement

### I. Description

The primary purpose of this project is to maintain jobs, reinstate jobs, or stimulate the creation of jobs through the State Foresters or equivalent State officials, by conducting/promoting wood to energy (biomass) activities to achieve healthy sustainable forests.

Funding provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) will focus on addressing the following.

- Providing technology to help rural public schools use woody biomass from public and private forest lands to heat and/or cool their facilities.
- Creation or retention of jobs through the development of wood-to-energy facilities via construction, operating and maintenance of the heating and/or cooling systems, and harvesting wood biomass
- Show that when properly conducted, woody biomass harvesting will result in reduced fuel loading and healthy natural forest communities.

### II. Goals

- Establish at least six (6) Fuels for Schools projects throughout southern Missouri in public school districts where the forest products industry has a major economic influence.
- Create or retain thirty (30) jobs by providing woody biomass to schools, and through constructing, operating, and maintaining the heating and/or cooling system
- Provide a new market for small diameter trees created by thinning forest stands; this will provide woody biomass for the Fuels for Schools projects and will reduce fuel loading while enhancing/restoring healthy natural forest communities.

### III. Expected Results and Benefits

- Significant energy savings annually for public school districts that install the Fuels for Schools energy systems.
- Markets established for small diameter trees will provide a source of biomass for the schools energy systems. These markets will provide a tool to reduce fuel loading , greenhouse gas emissions, and restore natural forest communities on both public and private forest lands.
- Job creation and retention will result from the establishment of the Fuels for Schools projects.
- The six projects will serve as examples to other businesses, public buildings, and schools throughout Missouri that are interested in energy savings through the use of biomass energy systems.