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Capital Region Launches Climate-Smart Biomass Innovation Committee to Drive Jobs, Investment, and Resiliency

Committee seeks to create scalable climate solutions, economic development, and workforce opportunity

Sacramento - March 5, 2026 - A new regional coalition of public, private, and civic leaders has launched the **Working Lands Biomass Utilization Advisory Committee**, a coordinated effort to accelerate **innovative, climate-smart biomass solutions** across the eight-county Capital Region. Coordinated by **Valley Vision** and aligned with the **We Prosper Together Initiative**, the Committee is focused on unlocking economic opportunity by transforming forest and agricultural residues into clean energy, low-carbon fuels, and high-value bio-based products.

The initiative positions biomass utilization as a powerful driver of **rural economic revitalization, quality job creation, and climate resilience**. By advancing scalable technologies and market pathways, the Committee aims to strengthen local supply chains, attract public and private investment, reduce wildfire risk, and expand workforce opportunities in forestry, manufacturing, clean energy, and land stewardship.

The Advisory Committee will guide development of a regional policy and investment framework designed to accelerate project deployment, reduce implementation barriers, and align state, federal, and private resources. Priority areas include infrastructure and market development, workforce training, innovation and commercialization, and coordinated regional strategy to ensure long-term economic competitiveness and climate impact.

This work is part of **We Prosper Together**, a long-term, community-driven regional initiative advancing inclusive economic growth, climate innovation, and high-quality job creation across the Capital Region. Through cross-sector collaboration and strategic investment, the initiative is working to ensure communities, industries, and workers benefit from the transition to a sustainable, climate-smart economy. To date, We Prosper Together has established a data-driven roadmap for sector-based economic development, the award of \$9 Million for 22 high-impact workforce projects across the region, and more.

Founding members include representatives from the **U.S. Forest Service, California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, El Dorado County, Yolo County, Nevada County, City of Woodland, Tahoe Fund, Yuba Water Agency, West Biofuels, Headwaters Consulting, TSS Consultants, Clere Consulting, and Valley Vision**.

As California advances its climate and clean energy goals, the Working Lands Biomass Utilization Advisory Committee will serve as a regional platform for **innovation, investment, job**

creation, and climate-smart economic growth—ensuring working lands remain a cornerstone of a resilient and competitive future.

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About We Prosper Together

Representing eight counties in the Capital Region, over 150 organizations, and hundreds of community leaders and residents, We Prosper Together is driving a community-led approach to building a stronger regional economy. We Prosper Together is working to elevate diverse voices, encourage investments, amplify local solutions, and create living-wage jobs for families in Colusa, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. Visit weprospertogether.org to learn more and get involved.