

# USDA Forest Service

*Support to Hawaii for*  
**Biomass & Bioenergy**



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# Nexus of forestry and biomass

## Shared goals

- Energy independence
- Improved utilization of woody fiber residues
- Creating and retaining local jobs

## Sources of woody fiber

- Plantations
- Wildland fuel reduction
- Control of invasive species
- Salvage operations after mortality from insects and diseases
- Green waste from urban forests

# Invasive species issues



- Already common invasive species may be utilized for woody biomass
- Planting or management to ensure a continued supply of material from invasive species has the potential for significant harm
- New introductions of invasive species for biomass purposes is strongly discouraged

Screen species using Hawaii Weed Risk Assessment

<http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/daehler/wra/>

# Technical assistance from the Forest Service *use of woody fiber for energy & other purposes*

Focus areas:

- 1) Assisting public agencies evaluate business investment opportunities involving public funds;
- 2) Identifying and developing qualified projects for public investment;
- 3) Evaluating technical assistance needs and facilitating appropriate contacts and networks;
- 4) Individual business technical and business assistance; *and*
- 5) Commercialization of lesser-used species.

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# Forest Service grant programs

in cooperation with DLNR Div. Forestry & Wildlife

## Woody Biomass Utilization Grant Program

### Cooperative Fire grants

- Historically to reduce hazardous fuels
- FY11 budget and guidelines pending
- Contact [Michael.Constantinides@hawaii.gov](mailto:Michael.Constantinides@hawaii.gov)

### State & Private Forestry competitive grants

- Forest Stewardship, Urban & Community Forestry, Forest Health, and Invasive Species programs may relate to biomass opportunities
- Competitive opportunity for partners & projects addressing Statewide Resource Strategy
- Contact [Sheri.S.Mann@hawaii.gov](mailto:Sheri.S.Mann@hawaii.gov)