Quinault Comprehensive Biomass Strategy Project

In partnership with Columbia-Pacific RC&EDD
Jesse Cardenagas
Executive Director
Quinault Indian Reservation Overview

- The Quinault Indian Reservation (QIR) contains 208,105 acres of forested land in a single, triangular block.
- Located in the southwest corner of the Olympic Peninsula in Western Washington and includes the villages of Taholah, Queets, and Amanda Park.
- It is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean and 28 miles of preserved shoreline, among the few undeveloped shorelines remaining in the United States.
Quinault Indian Nation Site and Resource Map
Project Objectives

- Identify and confirm community and tribal energy needs
- Conduct an inventory of biomass availability
- Develop a biomass energy vision statement, goals and objectives
- Identify and assess the biomass options, both demand-side (those that reduce energy consumption) and supply-side (those that generate energy), that are viable to the Quinault Indian Nation
- Develop a long-term biomass strategy consistent with the long-term overall goals of the Quinault Indian Nation
Project Goal

- The QIN’s goal is to develop a comprehensive biomass strategy that includes an implementation plan.
- It will be a sustainable plan that is in compliance with our overall QIN Strategic Plan.
- The Nation will accomplish this by contracting with Columbia-Pacific Resource Conservation & Economic Development District (ColPac) to fulfill the key objectives, tasks and activities of this project.
ColPac Mission Statement

“To promote and engage regional partnerships to preserve and enhance our communities by creating economic opportunity and advocating sustainability and revitalization of the diverse area we serve.”
ColPac Overview

ColPac is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization in good standing since its creation in 1972 as a Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council.

ColPac is highly experienced in carrying out economic, community, and environmental development projects.

ColPac has been planning, implementing, and administering projects of all sizes throughout our 4-county district for nearly 4 decades.

ColPac is currently overseeing the QIN USDA Rural Business Opportunity Grant Great Regions Project, Biomass for Heat Feasibility Study.
Quinault Indian Nation (QIN) Biomass for Heat Feasibility Study Project

- Approved and funded through USDA Rural Business Opportunity Grant Program and designated as 1 of 7 National Great Regions Projects by USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack
- Purpose of QIN Study is to identify and inventory biomass feedstock for sustainability analysis
- Project Partners include: QIN, ColPac, Grays Harbor Economic Development Council and Grays Harbor County
Great Regions Project Workshop
February 23, 2011 USDA Great Regions Workshop

- Hosted by QIN at Quinault Beach Resort
- Attendees included US Forest Service Under Secretary Jay Jenson
- Workshop brought together designated Great Regions and Federal, Local and State Agencies, Stakeholders and other Partners to focus on regional collaboration in rural Washington in support of QIN Project
Quillayute Valley School District Biomass Project
Selected Project Methodology

- Outreach includes community dinner meetings in the two primary native villages of Taholah and Queets to solicit Tribal Community input.

- Research past QIN energy studies, particularly biomass, visit biomass producers and users on and close to the reservation, and interview key stakeholders in order to understand the inventory and future trends of biomass quantity and availability.
Selected Project Methodology

- Methods to create a vision statement, goals, and objectives include strategy sessions with key stakeholders, sub-committees, and the Quinault Business Committee (Tribal Council) members.

- Identify and analyze biomass project options based on parameters set by the community and stakeholder meetings – meetings that determine the Nation’s energy needs.
The Nation’s communities and tribal members will realize employment opportunities through the creation of biomass energy consumption and energy producing projects resulting in a reduction of the reservation unemployment rate.

Future projects can include educational opportunities for the QIN’s children and communities, resulting in a stronger interest in renewable energy projects, which will bring even greater impacts to the communities and the Nation.

In the long term, the Nation’s economy will grow and be more prosperous.
Thank you!

Jesse Cardenas
Executive Director
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The Quinault Indian Nation