

**NCFA POSITION STATEMENT  
WOOD FOR BIOMASS/BIO-FUELS**  
Adopted by NCFA Board of Directors  
October 1, 2008

*The North Carolina Forestry Association (NCFA) believes that the state's forests can and should play a significant role in supplying woody biomass for energy solutions. We recognize that healthy productive forests depend on having strong markets for wood and wood products. By providing expanded market opportunities, biomass energy can provide an additional incentive to private landowners to keep their land in forest and to expand the management of the resource.*

*In order to insure the long-term sustainability of the forest resource, it is essential that the state of North Carolina and the Nation embrace policies that support the economic and environmental benefits coming from healthy and productive forests. Evolving energy policies and management of the nation's forests should support and not undermine such policies. We support energy initiatives that improve the environment, minimize economic distortions and maximize the vitality of our forests and the communities and industries that depend on them. We believe that market forces should be the primary stimulant for the use of wood and wood waste as a renewable fuel source and for determining fuel choices for energy generation.*

*To the degree that government policies stimulate increased use of wood fiber for fuel, the government should increase the supply and availability of wood fiber from state and federal lands to help meet the added demands for wood. Further, existing companies that produce energy from woody biomass should not be disadvantaged by government incentives available to new businesses. And further, existing companies that already produce energy from woody biomass and seek to expand their biomass energy capacity should be equally eligible for government incentives as new businesses.*

On October 9, 2009 the NCFA Board of Directors approved the following recommendations for its Biomass Harvesting Task Force related to the definition of "biomass" and the need for additional actions related to harvest:

**Definition of "Biomass:"** NCFA supports the definition of renewable biomass as contained in the 2008 Farm Bill.

**Biomass Harvesting:** The Board does not believe that additional harvesting guidelines restrictions, mandates or BMP's for biomass are warranted or necessary at this time. Note: This could change over time depending on research findings or field operations that point to a need for additional actions.