#### School of Environmental and Forest Sciences

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

College of the Environment





## Environmental assessments of woody biomass feedstock for bio-jet fuel production

#### **Presented by: Indroneil Ganguly** Assistant Professor (Res.)

#### **Co-Authors/Contributors:**

Indroneil Ganguly<sup>1</sup>, Ivan Eastin<sup>1</sup>, Francesca Pierobon<sup>2,</sup> Tait Bowers<sup>1</sup>, Ikechukwu Nwaneshiudu<sup>1</sup>, Cindy Chen<sup>1</sup> and Cody Sifford<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195 <sup>2</sup> Department of Land, Environment, Agriculture and Forestry (LEAF), University of Padua, 35020 Legnaro (PD), Italy

#### Northwest Wood-Based Biofuels and Co-Products Conference April 28-30, 2014

Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance

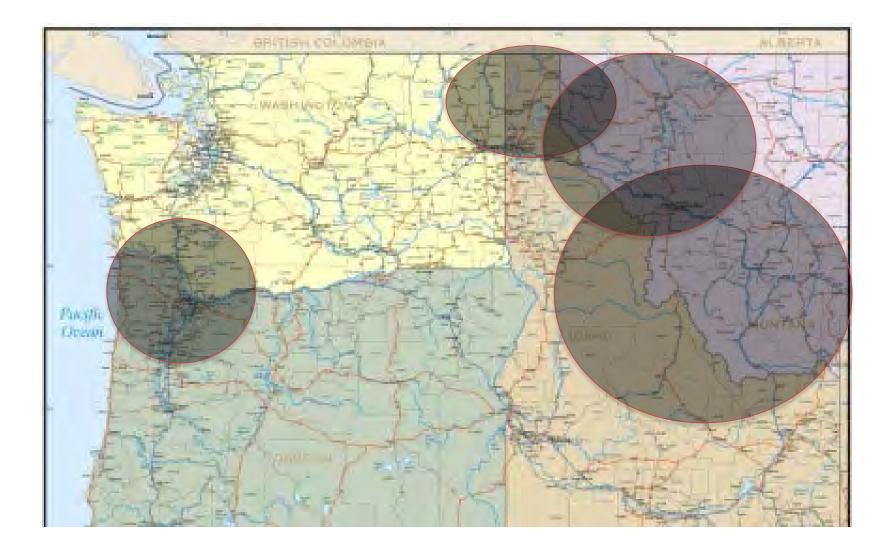
## Things to be covered

- Overall Framework LCA for NARA bio jet fuel
  - Using surrogate NREL pretreatment
  - East and west of the Cascades
- Advertise some of the LCA related posters
  - LCA of two NARA pretreatments
    - Wet Oxidation and Mild Bisulfite
  - Carbon neutrality analysis for West of Cascades feedstock zone
  - Bundling vs Loose residue hauling





#### Regional Scope: PNW Pilot areas West and East of the Cascades







# Life Cycle Assessment

"Compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product system throughout its life cycle"

This establishes an environmental profile of the system!

ISO = International Organization for Standardization Ensures that an LCA is completed in a certain way.

#### US Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007



Bio-Fuels necessary to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security LCA is required for public procurement

#### Suggested Greenhouse Gas Reduction Criterion

Subtitle A—Renewable Fuel Standard "(E) CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL –to be considered acceptable has to be "at least 60 percent less than the baseline lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions".





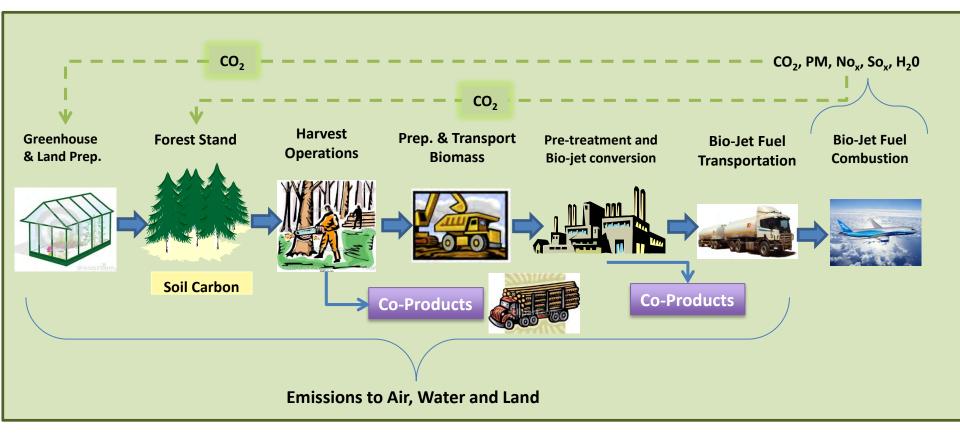
#### **Impact Category and Classification**

Impact category	Media			
Ozone depletion	Air			
Global climate	Air			
Acidification Air	Air			
Eutrophication	Air, water			
Smog formation Air	Air			
Human health criteria Air	Air			
Human health cancer	Urban air, nonurban air, freshwater, seawater,			
Human health noncancer	natural soil, agricultural soil			
Ecotoxicity Urban				





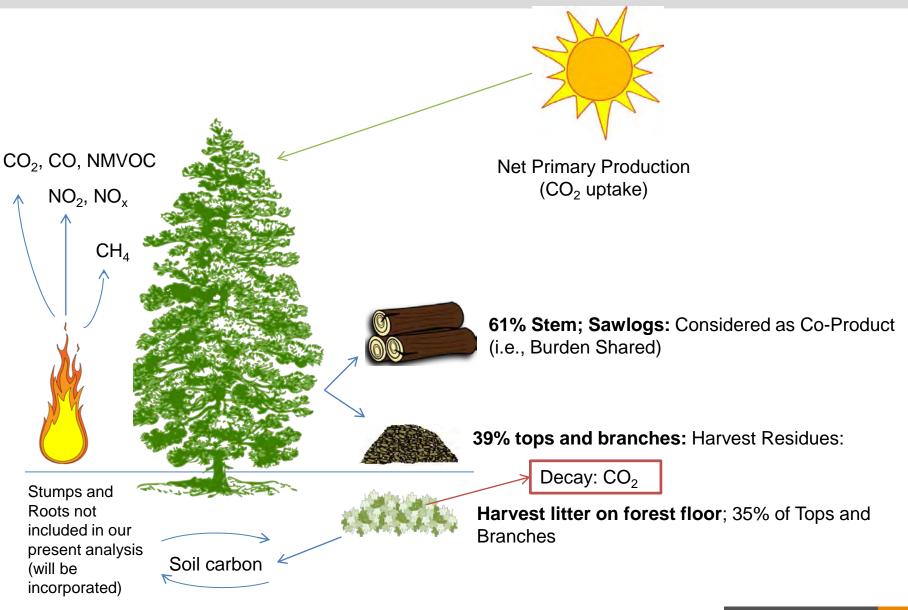
#### NARA Bio-Jet Fuel Process





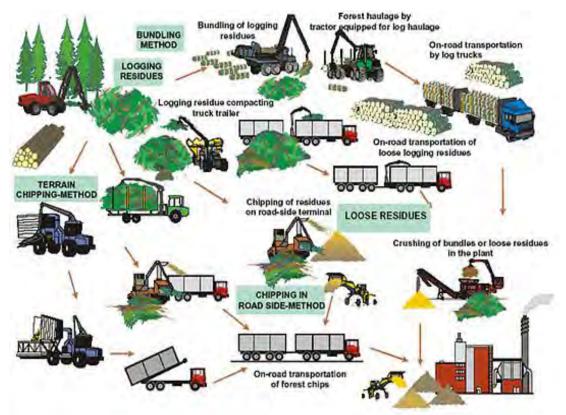


#### FOREST MANAGEMENT



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#### Biomass recovery and production systems



Source: Cindy Chen et al., 2014

#### Slash recovery operation Options

- Dump truck slash shuttle & centralized grinding
- Roll-off/Hook-lift truck slash shuttle & centralized grinding
- Bundling slash & Centralized grinding
- Pile-to-pile on site grinding

Transportation of processed biomass from centralized landing to processing facility

 Transport ground/chipped biomass to processing faculty using 120 CY chip van.





#### Baseline scenarios developed for recovery of landing residue

East Side Forest: Natural regeneration – 75 years selective harvest cycle West Side Forest: Plantation forest

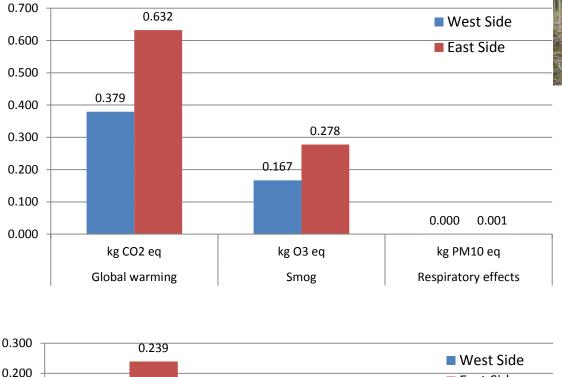
45 years clear cut to clear cut cycle

Harvest	Harvest System	Loose Residue	Chipper at	Chip
Operation		Shuttle (to	Central	transportation to
Scenario		secondary landing)	Landing	pre-treatment gate
Benchmark for both east and west side	Gentle Slope; Mechanized; (Feller Buncher, Track Skidder)	Modified dump truck (30 CY capacity)	Large Chipper; Direct Loader	Chip van (120 CY capacity)

Transportation		Spur Road	1 ½ lane	Gravel	Highw ay	Intersta te	Total
Benchmark (for East of the Cascades)	Avg. miles/hr	6	20	29	55	62	
	One way haul miles	2.5	5	10	20	37.5	75
Benchmark (for West of the Cascades)	Avg. miles/hr	5 - 10	10	-15	60	-70	
	One way haul miles	1.5	13	8.5	3	35	50



#### Incorporating the avoided emissions



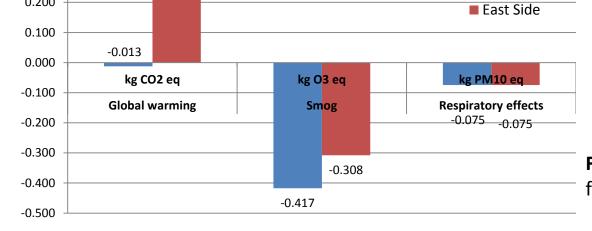


**Figure 1: System Impact** associated with harvest, in woods processing and transportation of feedstock for NARA biofuels

All Emissions Scaled to **6.857 kg of feedstock**, which is required to produce **1kg of IPK** 

**Figure 2: System Impact** after accounting for the avoided emissions





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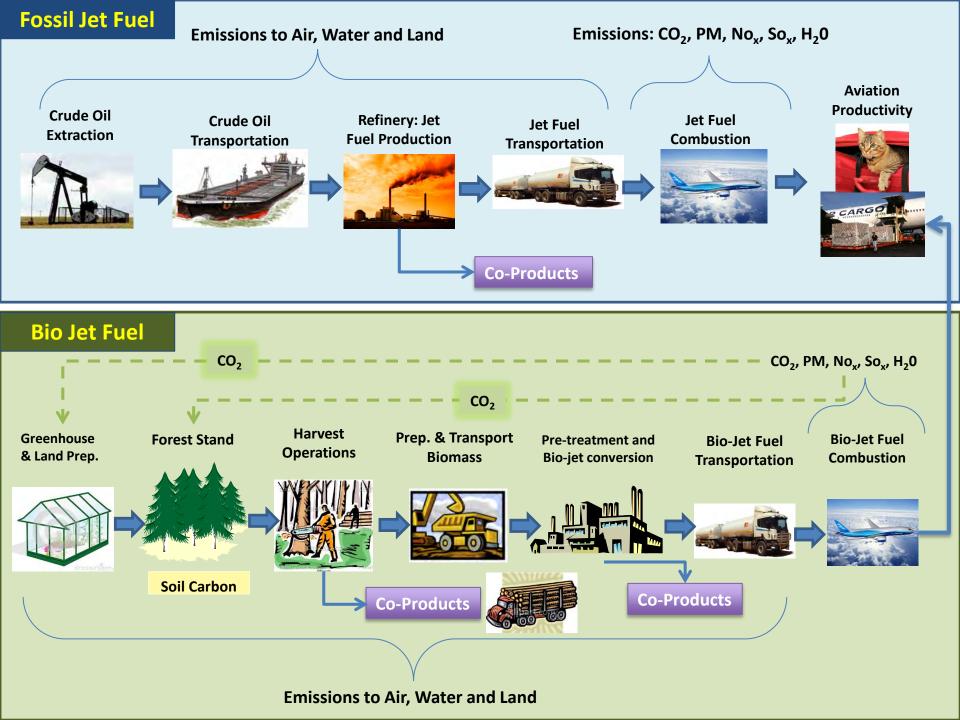
#### **Complete Biomass collection to fuel storage IPK Process:**

#### Environmental Performance of 1 kg of IPK (with avoided slash pile burning)

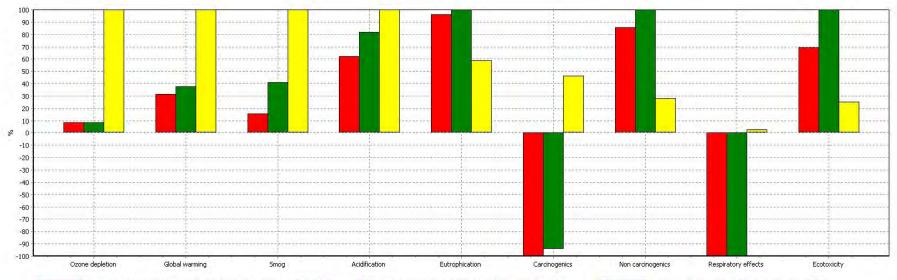
Impact category	Unit	IPK with feedstock sourced from West Side	IPK with feedstock sourced from East Side
Ozone depletion	kg CFC-11 eq	0.000	0.000
Global warming	kg CO2 eq	1.257	1.509
Smog	kg O3 eq	-0.281	-0.171
Acidification	mol H+ eq	0.004	0.199
Eutrophication	kg N eq	0.005	0.005
Carcinogenics	CTUh	0.000	0.000
Non carcinogenics	CTUh	0.000	0.000
Respiratory effects	kg PM10 eq	-0.073	-0.073
Ecotoxicity	CTUe	1.486	2.178







#### **Comparative Analysis of fossil based biojet vs NARA biojet fuel**



SF\_IPK (west side base case) Operation, aircraft, freight, intercontinental/RER U

Comparing 1 tkm 'SF\_IPK (west side base case) Operation, aircraft, freight, intercontinental/RER U', 1 tkm 'SF\_IPK (base case) Operation, aircraft, freight, intercontinental/RER U' and 1 tkm 'Kerosene Operation1, aircraft, freight, intercontinental/RER U'; Method: TRACI 2 V4.00 / Characterization

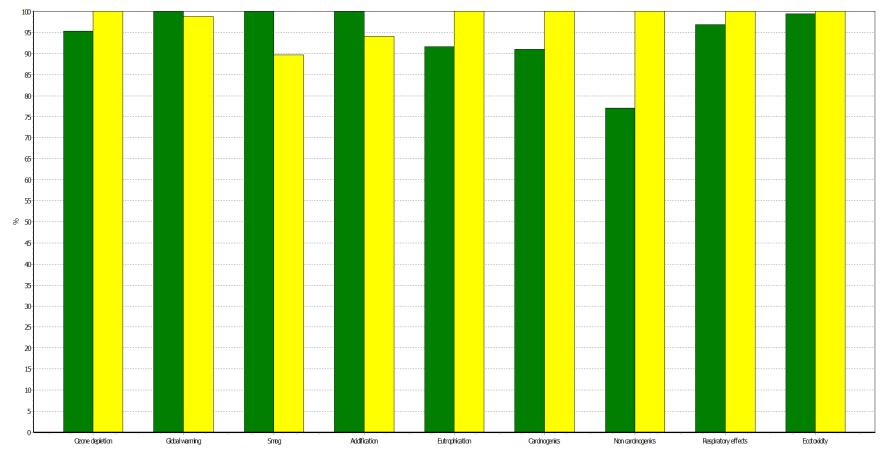


## Conclusions

- Both east and west of cascades feedstock based NARA IPK makes the 60% reduction in GWP indicator criterion
- For ease of feedstock transportation and in-woods processing in the plantation logging zones, and higher density of biomass availability, west of cascades scenario produces favorable results.
- Both the NARA pre-treatments compare favorably to the NREL process, so selection of one over the other is not likely to impact the overall IPK results adversely.
- The overall IPK emissions results are not completely NARA biofuel results: A number of intermediary components are yet to be modeled within ASPEN (NREL surrogates are used in a number of places) so these results should be used carefully.



#### Comparative LCA of **MBS** and **Wet-Ox** Pre-treatments



📕 MBSSugar 🛛 🛄 Wet-OxSugar

Comparing 1 kg MBS Sugar' with 1 kg Wet-Ox Sugar'; Method: TRACI 2 V4.00/Characterization





Carbon stocks, carbon sinks from FVS model normalized to the functional unit and cumulative radiative forcing of emissions and absorption sources in the LCA study.

