



May 6, 2003: *SB-273 Healthy Forests, Wildfire Mitigation*

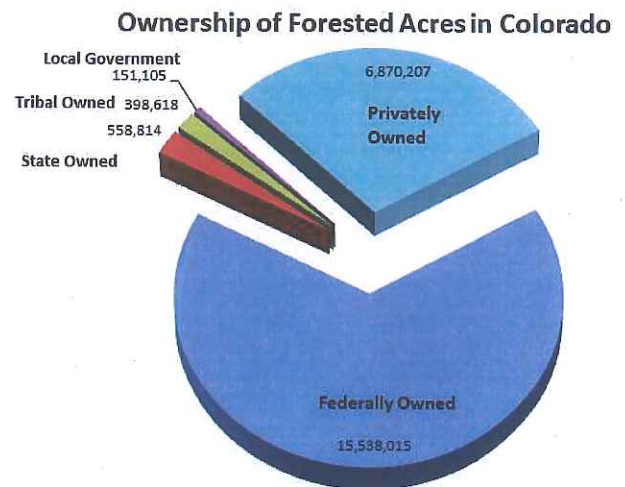
www.colofe.com Community Based Energy Development

SB13-273: This bill is about healthy forests, wildfire mitigation and rural economic development:

The bill is written to encourage the initial development of a biomass industry to allow for clean energy, rural economic development and private industry support for wildfire mitigation.

Please vote for SB13-273.

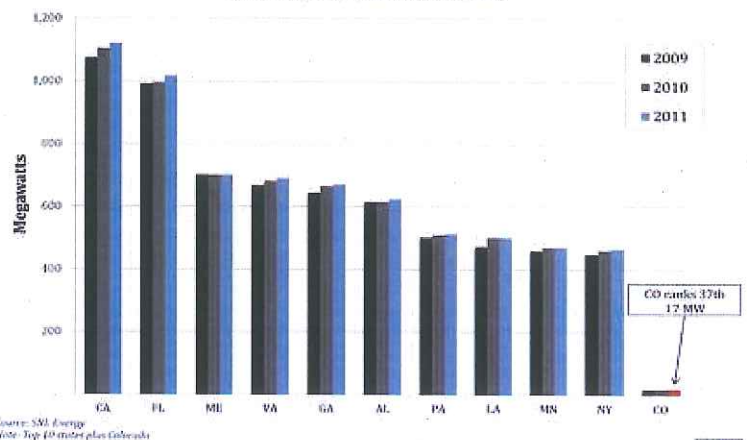
- **SB13-273 is stated as an Act: Concerning Incentives for the Beneficial Use of Forest Biomass** the bill requires coordination with existing owners of forested acres in Colorado "to remove potentially hazardous fuels, including diseased timber, that represent an imminent threat to our communities, public utility infrastructure, and watersheds due to the risk of catastrophic wildfires"
- **Over 66% of Colorado's Forested Acres are owned and managed by the Federal Government** and are therefore subject to federal policies and limited federal budgets for removal of hazardous fuels. An additional 29% of Colorado Forested Acres are owned by Private Land Owners with equally constrained forest mitigation budgets.
- **SB-12-273 is designed to encourage local energy production and local forest products uses for the limited forest mitigation available in Colorado.** The bill makes no specific reference to "bark beetle" devastation, because the limited development of a biomass energy industry in Colorado is dependent not on forest devastation, but on managed policies and public-private partnerships that encourage and help finance wildfire mitigation in the Wildland-Urban Interface and in other hazardous areas.
- **SB-12-273 is a limited and moderate legislative effort.** Colorado ranks 37th among states in total installed biomass energy capacity. With over 25m acres of forested land, increasing wildfires and drought, biomass energy can help support needed wildfire mitigation efforts and provide clean, energy and economic development to Colorado's rural communities.



Colorado State Wide Forest Assessment:

http://csfs.colostate.edu/pdfs/sfra09_csfs-forestassess-web-bkmrks.pdf

Total Installed Biomass Capacity, 2009-2011
Colorado is below the national trend



Colorado Ranks 37th in Biomass Energy AND: Biomass Creates Jobs & Improves Forest Health