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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Second Annual Southern Utah Biomass Field Day

Biomass is the ultimate green renewable energy and there is plenty of it in Southern Utah. All individuals interested in converting Junipers, Pinyon Pines, and other woody biomass into a usable product should mark their calendars for June 3 and 4, 2011. Equipment viewing will begin at 8am each day with demonstrations starting at 9am. An evening dinner on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at Eagle Point Resort, will include resource and technology experts.

Organizer Lance Lindbloom, of Bloomin Ranch Service in Beaver, Utah expects vendors and attendees from through-out the western region. "The idea stemmed from our stewardship project in southern Utah where part of the goal is not to just thin the trees but also do something with the woody product," said Lindbloom. "At our first event, the focus was on processing equipment; this year we have added harvesting, handling, transportation and utilization equipment to the demonstration. Additionally, experts will focus on the newest technology in biomass."

Contractors, landowners, and public land managers have long complained about the waste involved with removing invasive woody plants from grasslands or thinning trees from overcrowded forests. Traditionally this "slash" has been burned, scattered or chipped on location. Modern equipment makes it possible to chip this material for use in state-of-the-art heating and cooling systems that fully utilize the material with minimal residue and smoke. Many schools and other public buildings, as well as some industries have successfully converted to this green technology. Other products can include firewood, landscaping and erosion control materials. Use of chipped woody biomass for fire rehabilitation is being investigated by Federal and State agencies.

The event is free but registration is required. For updates, directions and further information visit the following website: [www.utahbiomass.com](http://www.utahbiomass.com).

Sponsors for this demonstration include:

Bloomin Ranch Service  
Bureau of Land Management  
Beaver County Travel Council  
Local Soil Conservation Districts  
Utah Biomass Resource Group

Utah Chapter of Society of American Foresters  
USU Extension Service  
Western SARE  
USDA Forest Service