

PRESS RELEASE:**SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH ISSUED BDO ZONE 'A' RATING FOR WOODY BIOMASS**

– Investment Grade Rating Expected to Drive Biomass Utilization –

November 30th, 2023



The BDO Zone Initiative has issued a BDO Zone 'A' rating for Summit County, Utah for 100,000 bone-dried metric tons per year of woody biomass.

Summit County and **Ecostrat** are pleased to announce the issue of the **Summit County BDO Zone**. The BDO Zone stretches across a 40-mile drive radius from Wanship, Utah and stands as the inaugural BDO Zone rating in the state for Forest Residues and Pulpwood.

The prestigious 'A' rating indicates 'high quality' feedstock supply chains and infrastructure, attributed to minimal competition for pulpwood and forest residue, combined with an anticipated additional supply from standing dead timber. Additionally, implementation of forest fuel removal programs by the US Forest Service, support likelihood of a stable and subsidized feedstock supply for the next 5 to 10 years.

"There is an abundance of ecosystem restoration byproducts from current and future forestry projects in Summit County and the surrounding areas", said **Summit County's Lands and Natural Resources Director, Jessica Kirby**. "We are eager to see this woody biomass utilized in a value-added product rather than see it all burned as piles. Summit County is hopeful that this rating will attract the right investment to the area and that it will create new jobs and add economic value while simultaneously benefiting the environment."

Jordan Solomon, Chairman of the BDO Zone Initiative, stated, "This investment grade rating speaks to the high-level of "bio-manufacturing readiness" of Summit County, UT. We hope that this 'A' rating will function to bring significant attention to this excellent region from bio-based project developers around the world."

To see the full BDO Zone Rating for Summit County please click [here](#), or visit www.bdozone.org.

To discuss new project development opportunities please contact info@bdozone.org.

About Summit County

Located in the heart of Utah, Summit County has a population of 42,357 and an annual growth rate of 1.4%. Supported by a skilled workforce of 30,578 individuals, the wood industry contributes significantly to the county's economic strength with average earnings per job surpassing the county average.

Summit County's biomass supply, infrastructure assets, including landfill access, healthcare facilities, housing availability, and industrial zones, reinforce its appeal for new bio-based projects. The county's commitment to nurturing its forestry sector is underscored by its 16% contribution to the county's \$4 billion Gross Regional Product (GRP) in 2022.

The county invites entrepreneurs, developers, and visitors to explore opportunities while welcoming visitors to iconic sites like Utah Olympic Park, Park City Mountain Resort, and the Sundance Film Festival. Additionally, the county preserves its agricultural heritage through family farms, which remain vital to the local economy.

For more information about **Summit County**, visit www.summitcounty.org. The BDO Zone Local Development Leader (LDL) is **Jessica Kirby, Summit County Lands & Natural Resources Director** (jkirby@summitcounty.org).

About *The BDO Zone Initiative*

The BDO Zone Initiative is an economic development platform that enables local communities to deploy powerful economic development tools – BDO Zone Ratings – to drive, accelerate, and catalyze biobased investment and commercial project development in BDO Zones.

A BDO Zone rating is a standards-based technical risk assessment of biomass feedstock, supply chain, and infrastructure attributes of a region with respect to the feasibility and development potential of new biofuel, renewable chemical, biogas, bioproduct, or clean hydrogen plants.

BDO Zone ratings help regions and communities attract new biobased project development and participate in the growing global bioeconomy by demonstrating the maturity of local biomass supply chains and whether or not they are developed enough to support biobased manufacturing without excessive risk.

For more information on the **BDO Zone Initiative**, please contact info@bdozone.org. To view all current and upcoming BDO Zone designations, visit www.bdozone.org or check out the BDO Zone [LinkedIn](#) page for all news and updates.

About Ecostrat

Ecostrat is the North American Leader in supplying biomass due diligence for biofuels, renewable chemicals, biogas, and bio-product project development and finance. Ecostrat led the USDOE/BETO funded project to develop the new investment [Standards and Ratings for Biomass Supply Chain Risk](#) which were subsequently used in the development of the [CSA W209:21 Biomass supply chain risk National Standard of Canada](#).



The Advisory Group combines the BSCR Standards with powerful predictive analytics to understand and minimize supply chain risk. The Biomass Supply Group has 25 years of experience in sourcing and supplying more than 5 million tons of biomass feedstock for bioenergy, biofuel, and biochemical projects across North America.

Jordan Solomon is Chairman of the BDO Zone Initiative and President of Ecostrat. He has overseen the development and operation of biomass supply chains for more than 5,000,000 tons of feedstock over two decades for bioenergy, biofuel, and biochemical projects.

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