

## Biochar's Impact on Soil Health Storymap Collections



Led by Harry Groot (Dovetail Partners Inc.), Brad Matlack (formerly with the Carlton Soil and Water Conservation District), Kurt Anderson (Minnesota Power) and Grace Simmons (Dovetail Partners Inc.), the mission of this biochar project was to document effects of biochar applications on soil health parameters in varied soil types and cropping systems. This collection of StoryMaps was created to display the process and experiences.

*The work upon which this project is based was funded in whole or in part through a grant awarded by USDA Forest Service. Wood Innovations (23-DG-11094200-453). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

[View Storymap](#)



### WHAT IS AGRIVOLTAICS?



Agrivoltaics is the concept of combining solar energy and food production to optimize land use and generate greater income and market diversity for landowners.

### HOW MUCH LAND AREA ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?



4-5 acres to produce 1MW energy to power 172 homes on average.

## Agrivoltaics Infographic

Check out our infographic on key takeaways from Dovetail's report, *Agrivoltaics - Merging Solar Energy and Agricultural Production*.

Click [here](#) to view the infographic and read the report:

<https://www.dovetailinc.org/porfoliodetail.php?id=677d752f80b29>


[View Infographic](#)

## Welcome to the Team!

Join us in welcoming our newest Dovetail Associate, [Abby Andrus](#)! As an ecological consultant, Abby will be supporting our wildfire work by adding capacity in southern St. Louis County. She has a special interest in prescribed fire.



## Register Now for Q2 Webinar on June 6th



**Tree-Free, Hemp, and Non-Wood Alternatives - Impacts & Trade-Offs Webinar**

June 6, 2025 8:30am - 9:45am CDT

**Speakers: Jim Bowyer, Ph.D., Mark Jacobs, and Kathryn Farnholz**  
Join Dovetail Partners as we explore non-wood alternatives to traditional forest products, including trends in "tree-free" and use of fibers such as hemp. This webinar will explore the role of hemp, agricultural residues, and other materials in developing material supplies and the impacts for forestry and farming that result. Kathryn, Jim, and Mark will discuss environmental impacts, trade-offs, and key insights.



**Jim Bowyer, Ph.D., Associate, Dovetail Partners**  
Bowyer is Professor Emeritus, University of Minnesota Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering. He is an Elected Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science and an expert in environmental life cycle assessment. He has published widely on the topics of wood and fiber science, bioenergy, life cycle assessment, green building standards, global raw material trends, and environmental policy and is a frequent speaker on these topics.

**Mark Jacobs, Associate, Dovetail Partners**  
Mark Jacobs served as Land Commissioner for Aitkin County in north-central Minnesota for thirteen years and has a total of almost thirty-nine years of experience in public land management and forestry in the Lake States. During his tenure, Aitkin County was recognized as one of the first public land managers to achieve third-party certification through the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Mark helped propel Aitkin County as a national leader in forest and recreational management of public lands. Mr. Jacobs brings expertise in public forest management, environmental concerns in the Lake States Region, and experience across the spectrum of silviculture, forest certification, carbon offsets, environmental education, endangered species and habitat needs.

**Kathryn (Kate) Farnholz, President/COO, Dovetail Partners**  
Kathryn is a forester by training with over 22 years of experience in the forest and forest products sector. She has worked on environmental issues in a range of roles, including environmental assessment, permitting, and GIS analysis. Her career has focused on sustainability concerns, including leadership on family forestry, community-based decision making, forest certification, and environmental standard setting.

**Webinar Topic: Tree-Free, Hemp, and Non-Wood Alternatives - Impacts & Trade-Offs**  
June 6, 2025 8:30am - 9:45am CDT

Dovetail Partners is offering quarterly webinars throughout 2025 to highlight key topics and provide greater insight into issues addressed in our reporting. You can learn more about the remaining topics [here](#).

## Green Gold: Wood Residuals Summit 2025

The summit, hosted by the Michigan Forest Biomaterials Institute (MIFBI), is May 6-8. Dovetail Associate Nia Becker will attend the Green Gold: Wood Residuals Summit 2025 and facilitate the Innovators Pitch session. The summit's purpose is to build global commercialization bridges across sectors to realize the value of wood residuals for a profitable and sustainable economy.



The Michigan Forest Biomaterials Institute

**Green Gold: Wood Residuals Summit 2025**  
Commercializing Wood Residuals for a Sustainable Economy

**MAY 6-8, 2025**  
TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

[www.mifbi.org/events](http://www.mifbi.org/events)

[Learn More](#)



**SAVE THE DATE**

**JULY 2025**

9<sup>TH</sup> AMERICAN FOREST CONGRESS  
FOOTY & GRIMBLE  
WASHINGTON, DC | JULY 15 - 18, 2025

## 9th American Forest Congress Virtual Workshop

Planning continues for the [9th American Forest Congress](#), to be held July 15-18, 2025, in Washington, DC. The Steering Committee is hosting four online Pathway Workshops – key building blocks for shaping the agenda and developing resolutions for the Congress itself. Dovetail Partners Associate, Michael Snyder has been representing Dovetail in the working group planning for the Sustainable Forests Products Pathway which will be further refined during a dedicated webinar Workshop session on April 23, 2025. The working group seeks Workshop participants with expertise or influence in forestry and related fields; representation from all geographic regions; multiple sectors (e.g., industry, government, science, Tribal representation, NGOs) for well-rounded discussions; youth and emerging leaders; and new voices offering fresh perspectives and diverse viewpoints. Learn more [here](#).

## Water Waste Treatment in the USA

*Elizabeth Treskunova, internship project*

One of the biggest national issues facing wastewater treatment today is its average age of 33 years and grade of "D" from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The inefficiency of the US Water Waste Treatment System (WWTS) stems potentially from a lack of public involvement and funding, which could be remedied with an increase in education and awareness paving the way for funding and consequently cleaner water. Read [here](#).





## 2025 SBP Americas Forum

The 2025 SBP Americas Forum has been rescheduled for **25 June, 2025**, in Atlanta, Georgia. SBP is a certification scheme designed for biomass, including wood pellets and chips, biochar, biocarbon, and other

processed wood-based products used for energy, industry, or beyond. The certification scheme provides assurance that biomass is sourced legally and sustainably, enabling companies in the bioeconomy sector to demonstrate compliance with regulatory requirements. It establishes clear standards and processes to ensure responsible sourcing and compliance throughout the supply chain. The 2025 SBP Americas Forum will bring together SBP Certificate Holders and Civil Society Organizations across the Americas where SBP operates at. This invitation-only event is designed to promote networking and constructive dialogue among stakeholders. Key topics on the agenda will include the upcoming publication of Regional Risk Assessments for the US and Canada, small landowners and how to best meet their needs along with other significant issues affecting the sustainable biomass sector. Those interested in attending are encouraged to reach out to SBP's Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Antigoni Koufi at [akoufi@sbp-cert.org](mailto:akoufi@sbp-cert.org).

*Dovetail Partners is involved in stakeholder engagement for the forum and served on the assessment teams for the US Private Forest RRA and US National Forest RRA.*

Join the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) from May 20-23 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for the 2025 SFI Annual Conference as we celebrate SFI's 30th anniversary and three decades of shared achievements in sustainable forestry! Kathryn Fernholz, from Dovetail Partners, will be a speaker for the session on "Forest Products Innovation to Advance Sustainability". There will also be a Women's Forest Congress meetup on May 22nd over lunch. Learn more about the conference: [forests.org/conference](https://forests.org/conference).



## We want your feedback!

[Take Survey](#)

*Dovetail supports progress and change to address inequality.*

## Connect with Us



[www.dovetailinc.org](https://www.dovetailinc.org)  
+1-612-333-0430

Copyright © 2025 Dovetail Partners, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Dovetail Partners is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.  
Dovetail Partners, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!