

NARA

Energy Literacy as a Co-Product of the NARA Supply Chain: Closing the gap from emerging science to education

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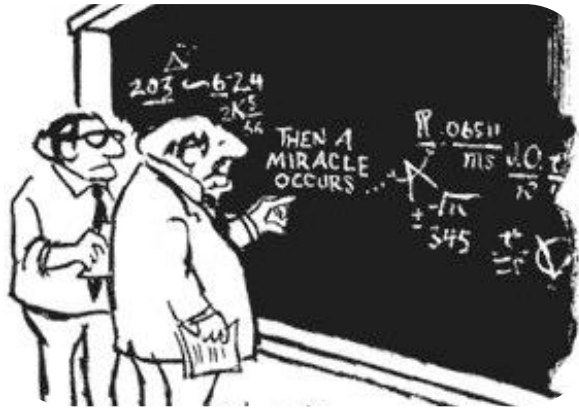
Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance





A Few of the Education Team Goals:

2015 Annual Meeting
Spokane, WA



Strengthen overall science literacy of students in areas particular to biofuels



Improve energy and biofuels literacy of teachers educating our future citizens



Future (CSKT Forestry) describes biomass use on the Confederated Salish Kootenai (CSKT) forest lands to NARA TPP students. L-R: Karl Olson (NARA WSU), TPP student, Study Everett/Leah, Blake/Hugh, Unidentified WSU student, Rod C.

Support bioenergy workforce development



Educating and assessing "the pipeline"

2015 Annual Meeting
Spokane, WA

31,674
K12 students

845
Teachers

173
Undergrads

159
Graduate

Assessment

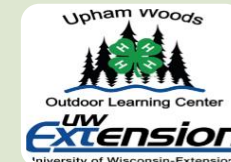
Digital Asset
Management



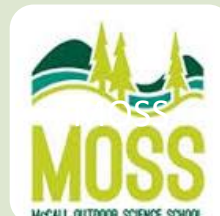
Facing the Future is an Independent



Facing the Future is an Independent



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Facing the Future is an Independent



31,674 K12 Students

845 Teachers





173 Undergraduates



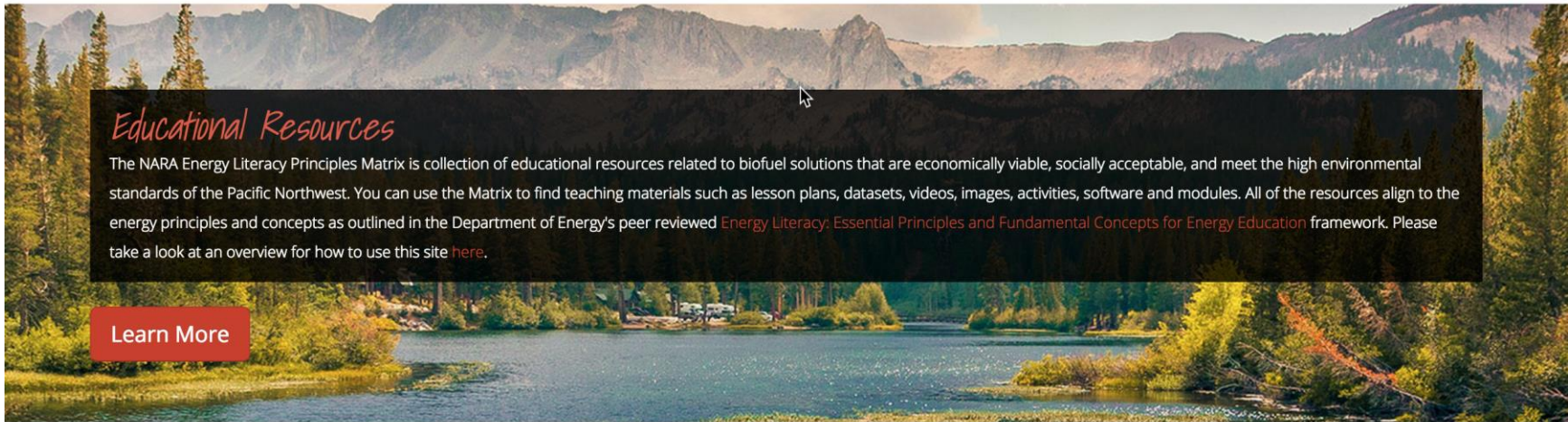
159 Graduate students



...e (CSKT Forestry) describes biomass use on the Confederated Salish
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hiudu, Everett Isaac, Blake Hough, (2 unidentified WSU students), Ro



Digital Asset Management



Educational Resources

The NARA Energy Literacy Principles Matrix is collection of educational resources related to biofuel solutions that are economically viable, socially acceptable, and meet the high environmental standards of the Pacific Northwest. You can use the Matrix to find teaching materials such as lesson plans, datasets, videos, images, activities, software and modules. All of the resources align to the energy principles and concepts as outlined in the Department of Energy's peer reviewed [Energy Literacy: Essential Principles and Fundamental Concepts for Energy Education](#) framework. Please take a look at an overview for how to use this site [here](#).

Learn More

🔍 SEARCH
Find what the matrix has to

📖 LEARN
Learn from the matrix's

📄 PREPARE
Prepare from the resources in

👍 TEACH
Easily teach what the matrix



MORE THAN **60** LESSONS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED



60 WEBINARS HAVE
BEEN PRODUCED



2 ENERGY LITERACY
INSTRUMENTS HAVE BEEN
DEVELOPED AND VALIDATED BY
THE NARA EDUCATION TEAM



16 PEER
REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS





Assessment Results

Teachers

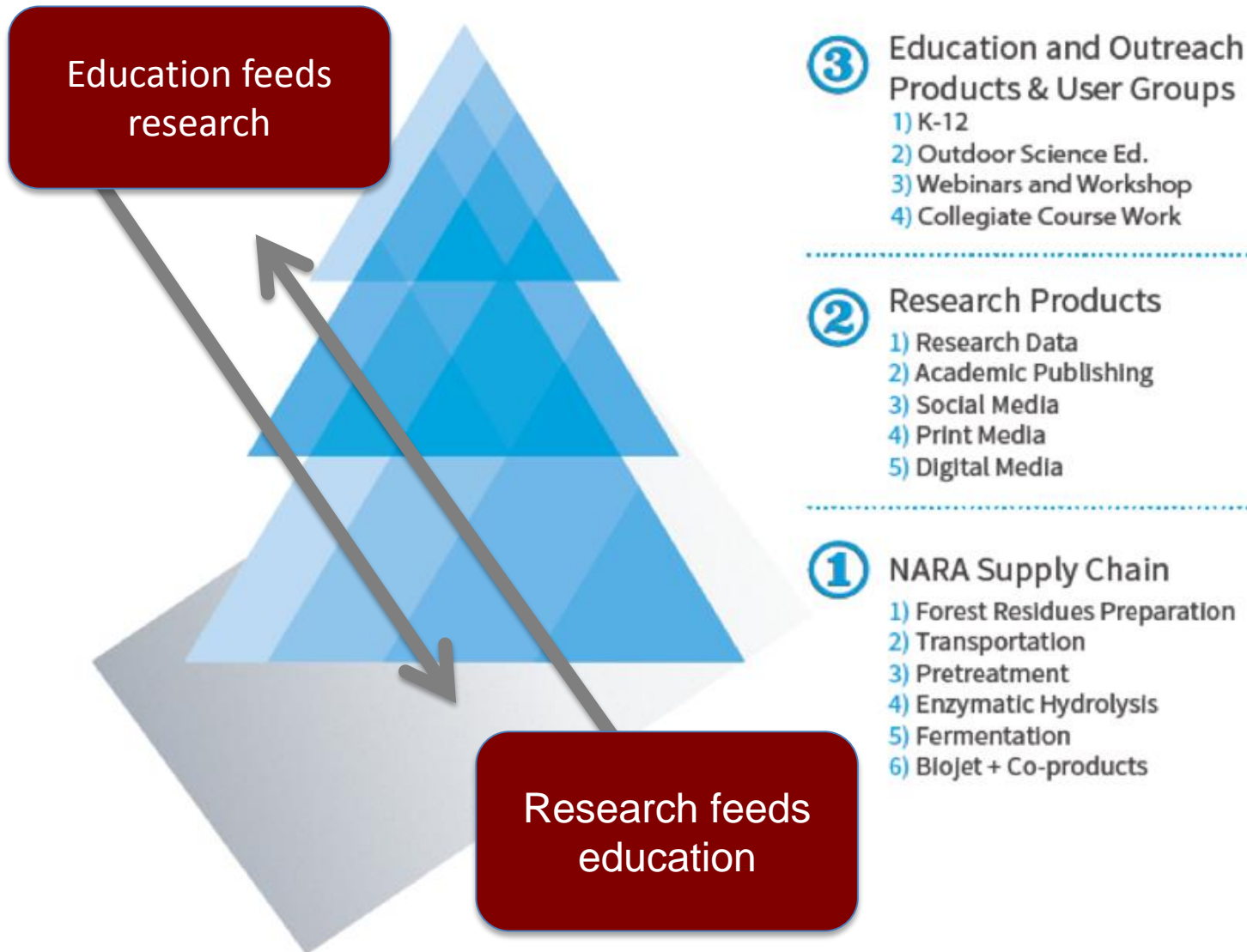


- are **more knowledgeable** about biofuels and biofuels research
- have **more informed opinions** about bioenergy
- Incorporate biofuels into their curriculum
- Are more likely to use problem-based learning in the classroom

K12 Students are

- **More knowledgeable** about bioenergy
- Interested in pursuing STEM careers





IDX EDUCATION FEEDING RESEARCH



Supply Chain Analyses



Pacific Northwest (PNW) [Supply Chain Analysis](#)

This site provides supply chain data and analysis generated by NARA research for the region identified as the Pacific Northwest, which includes Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.



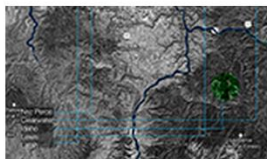
Mid-Cascades to Pacific (MC2P) [Supply Chain Analysis](#)

This site provides supply chain data and analysis generated by NARA research for the region identified as Mid-Cascades to Pacific, which includes the western sections of Washington and Oregon.



Western Montana Corridor (WMC) [Supply Chain Analysis](#)

This site provides supply chain data and analysis generated by NARA research for the region identified as the Western Montana Corridor, which includes the western section of Montana, Northern Idaho and northeast Washington.



Clearwater Basin [Supply Chain Analysis](#)

This site provides supply chain data and analysis generated by NARA research for the region identified as the Clearwater Basin, located in central Idaho.

NEWS & FEATURES

[Feature Stories](#)

[News Releases](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[NARA Cumulative Reports](#)

[Publications and Patents](#)

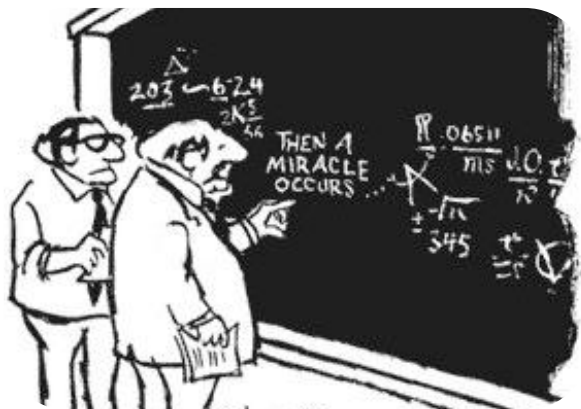
[In the News](#)

NARA SURE EDUCATION FEEDING RESEARCH

SURE Participants (35 total)

2015 Annual Meeting
Spokane, WA





Develop skills for future biofuels and bioproducts research careers



Excite undergraduate students about research in biofuels and bioproducts



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Increase number of students participating in biofuels and bioproducts research, including those from schools without research programs

Possible Benefits of Doing Research (Ranked based on their 2015 Experience)	'Extremely valuable' or 'valuable' benefit
Learned what it's like to be a researcher	80%
Determined that I want to continue studying science or engineering	60%
Travel to an interesting/different/new place	70%
I found a particular field of research offered through this program very interesting	60%
Learned what it's like to do research for grad school	50%
Obtained hands-on experience to go with my class experience	80%
Get experience/publications that I'm proud of and can put on my resume	80%
Financially benefit	90%
I want to improve my analytical abilities.	70%
Something different than I've done before.	90%
This was my only option/job possibility for this time during the summer.	70%

TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM EDUCATION FEEDING RESEARCH



Tribes contribute to NARA's 1,000 Gallon

**Confederated Salish &
Kootenai Tribes (MT)**

**Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
(WA)**

2 truckloads from CSKT and 1 truckload from MIT

Other tribes contacted and could not participate for various reasons.



Photos courtesy: John Sessions – NARA OSU

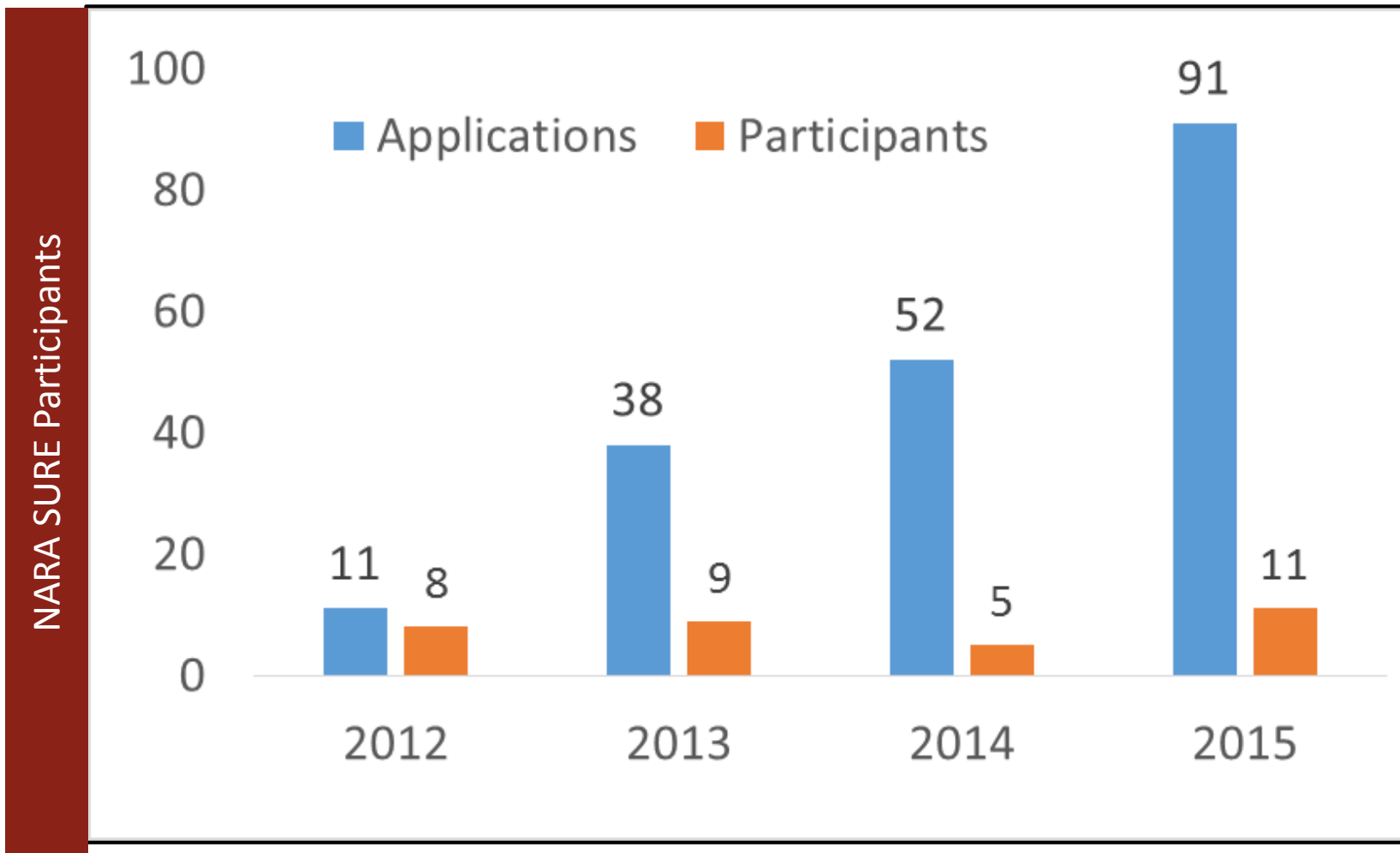


What's Next?



Next up for Year 5

2015 Annual Meeting
Spokane, WA



Interest is growing! Planning a proposal to USDA in 2016.



Next up for Year 5

2015 Annual Meeting
Spokane, WA



Overview:
Keywords:
Age/Grade Range:

Background:

Plant Cell Walls & Alcohols

This lesson looks at the breakdown of plant material to demonstrate the production of biofuels. Biofuels, biomass, lignocellulosic, pretreatment, hydrolysis, fermentation, lignin, cellulose, hemicellulose.

Biofuel is a source of renewable energy that can be used as an alternative to nonrenewable fossil fuels. There are several types of biomass that can be used to manufacture biofuel (any fuel that is made from biological organisms or their products). Common categories include bioethanol and biodiesel. Alcohol-based bioethanol or bioethanol can be produced from starch-based or lignocellulosic sources. This lesson will address conversion of lignocellulosic biomass to alcohol.

Lignocellulosic biomass is a plant material feedstock that contains the two primary constituents lignin and cellulose. The cell comprising plant tissues have cell walls, and upon plant death and desiccation the cell walls remain. (Liquid and the particles that were housed inside the cell wall during the cell's life stay and their contribution to biomass is negligible.) These cell wall material makes up the bulk of plant biomass that is used for fuel production.

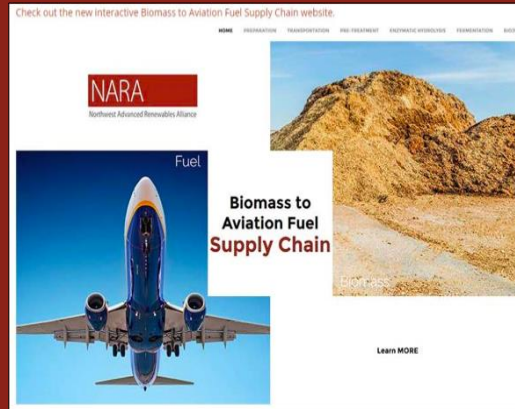
Plant cell walls are constructed of a matrix of cellulose and hemicellulose (starch) and lignin, a complex compound that is difficult for organisms to break down and digest. Cellulose and hemicellulose are the raw material that is the goal for subsequent conversion to alcohol. Lignin essentially binds the cellulose and hemicellulose together and prevents access to these starches by other organisms. Thus lignin helps to prevent the plant from predators and provides rigidity to the cell wall.

Just as in the natural world, so in the starches that are of most interest to current biofuel production processes, as they are readily broken down to release energy. The presence of lignin in biomass presents challenges in fuel production that are analogous to those faced by organisms trying to consume plants for their starchy components.

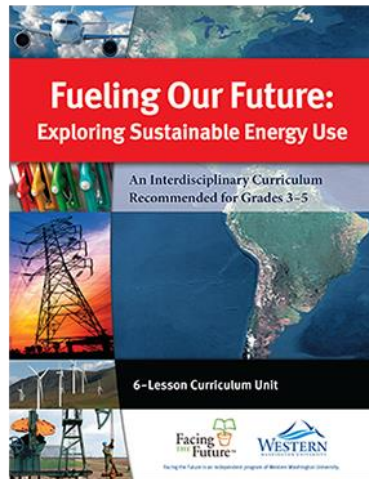
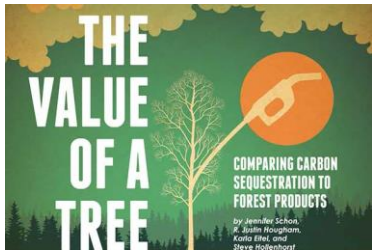
What follows is a discussion of the steps of lignocellulosic biomass conversion.



This work was supported by an Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grant no. 2011-68002-20418 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.



Educational Products



Interactive Venues

