# Mescalero Apache Tribe Biomass Opportunity Assessment

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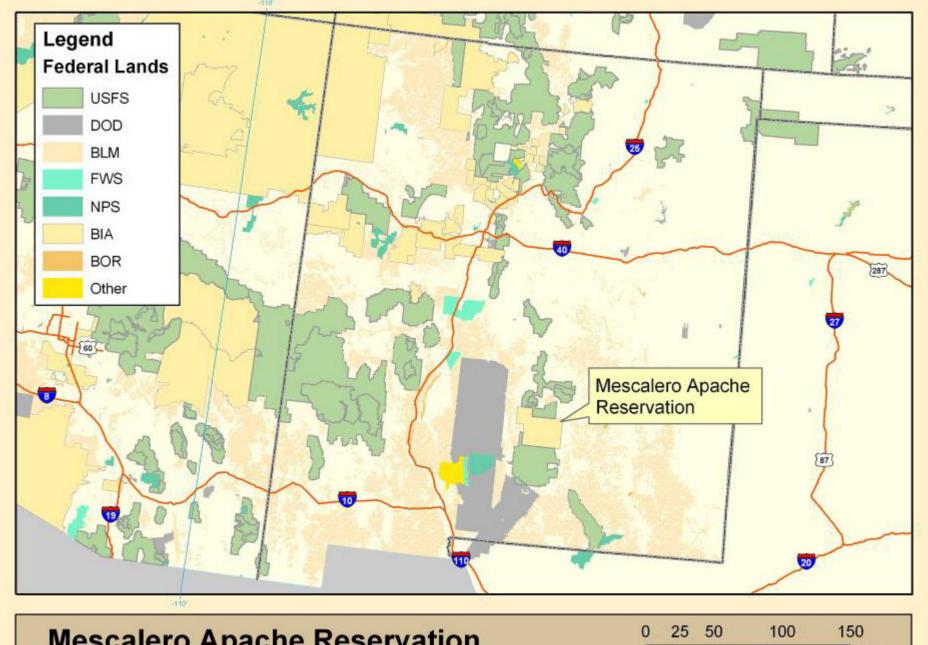
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#### Project Rationale

- Abundant natural resources means "others" are always approaching the Tribe to use the resource
- "Others" don't necessarily have Mescalero interests at heart:
  - Environmental impacts
  - Job creation
  - \$ that flow off the reservation

# Project Rationale (cont.)

- Desire to evaluate the "best" options for the Tribe, independent of "others"
- Interest in understanding what Tribal capacity is necessary to develop and operate biomass projects.
  - Try to match human resources with project requirements.
- An independent study allows for free exchange of ideas that may or may not have merit for MAT.







# Mescalero Apache Background

- 720 sq. miles (>31 million acres)
- Heavily forested
- Elevation from 5,400 to 12,000 feet
- 4,000 Tribal members, most live on reservation
- 7 major Tribal enterprises including Mescalero Forest Products









#### Mescalero Comparative Position

- Two existing sawmills, ~50 mbf/yr.
- >40,000 gt/yr mill residues (existing markets)
- Active forestry operations
  - 1st Tribal USFS Stewardship contract
- Escalating energy costs
  - Limited natural gas, mostly propane
  - Electricity from coop and IOU

### **Project Tasks**

- Resource assessment
- Energy loads assessment
- Regional markets for bio-products
- Comparative product analysis

### Thank you

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