

Panel 3: Common Ground and Opportunities for Collaboration

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International Workshop on Adequacy of Data
for Conducting Risk Assessments of
Sustainable Wood Sourcing Practices for
Wood Pellet Exports
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Athens, GA

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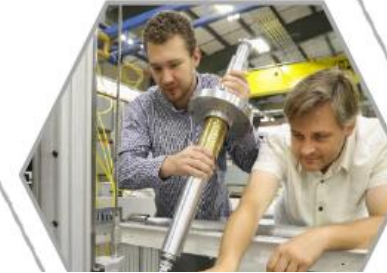
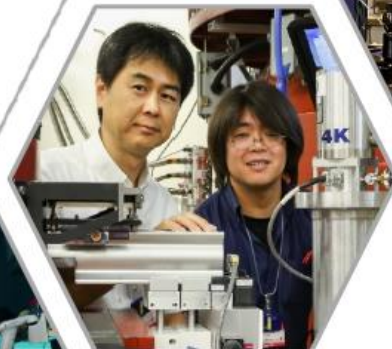
ORNL vision: become the world's premier energy research institution



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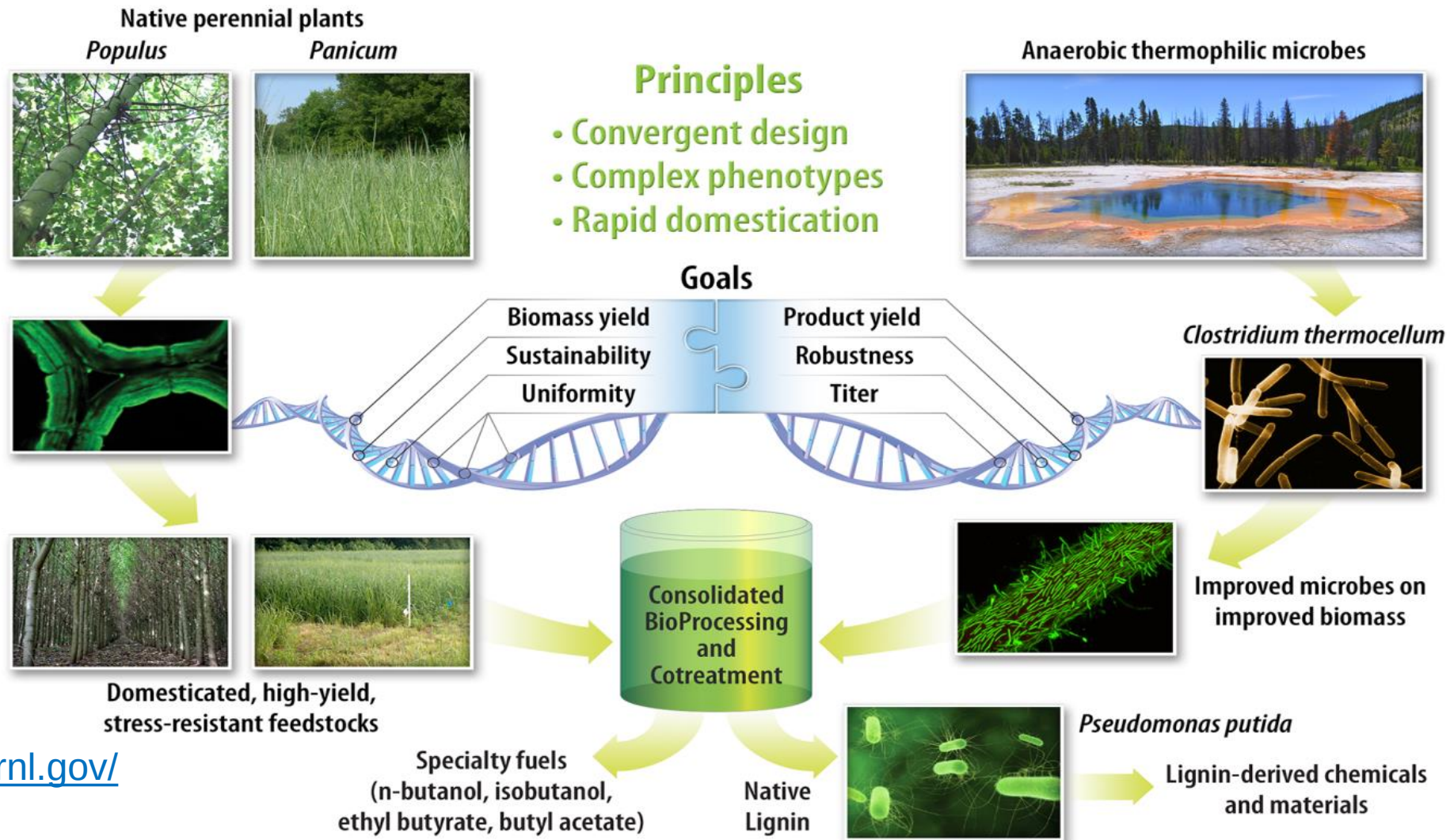


ORNL in figures:

Staff: 4,750, including scientists and engineers in 100 disciplines; Users and visiting scientists, annually: 3,200; Budget: \$1.4 billion per year; Location: In eastern Tennessee, near Knoxville
Established: 1943 (Manhattan Project)
US patents issued since 2005: 665

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ORNL Center for Bioenergy Innovation Goal: Accelerate domestication of novel plants and microbes to enable high-impact advances across the bioenergy supply



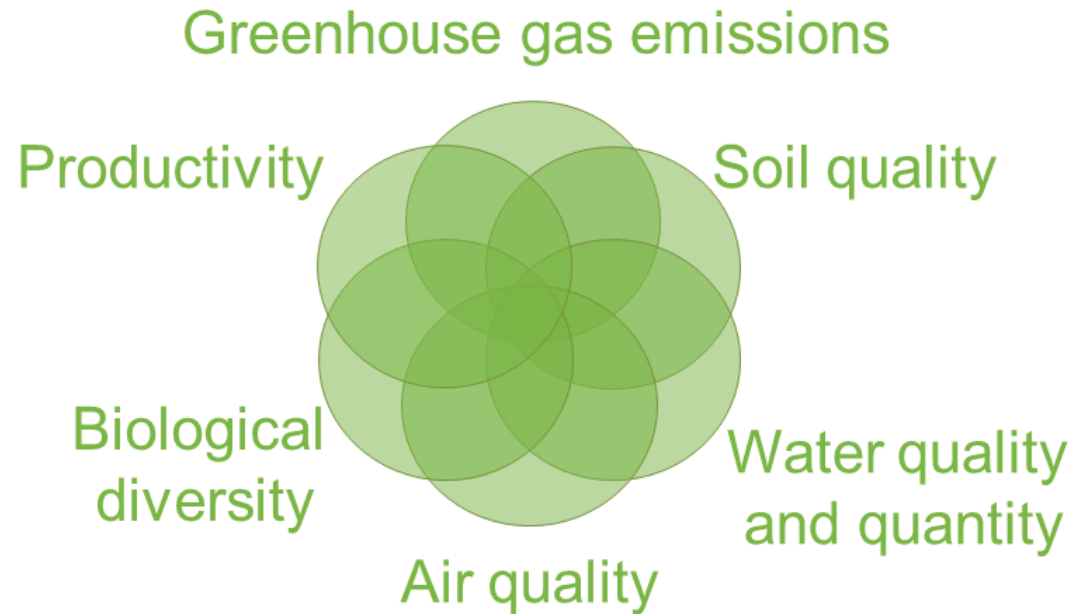
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U.S. DOE Commitment to *Sustainability*

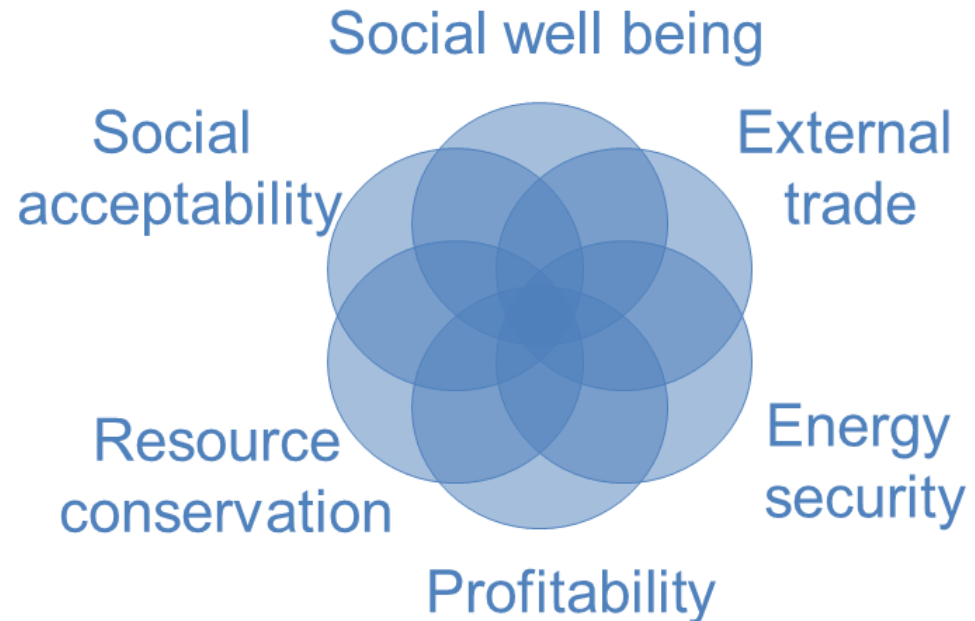
- BioEnergy Technology Office (BETO) Strategic Plan (<https://www.energy.gov/eere/bioenergy>)
- **Vision:** A thriving and *sustainable* bioeconomy fueled by innovative technologies
- **Mission:** Developing and demonstrating transformative, *sustainable* bioenergy technologies for a prosperous nation
- **Sustainability Goal:** Understand and promote the positive economic, social, and environmental effects and reduce the potential negative impacts of bioenergy production activities.
- **Effects and indicators** are context-specific (Efroymson et al. 2013).



ORNL Role: Quantifying effects and trade-offs associated with bioenergy options; communicating to enhance benefits



McBride et al. (2011)
Ecological Indicators
11:1277-1289



Dale et al. (2013)
Ecological Indicators
26:87-102.

Quantify effects by applying scientific approaches to site-specific conditions.
Communication is key: provide decision-relevant, credible information to help bioenergy systems incorporate continual improvement (Dale et al. 2015)

Overview of Approach: working with partners to identify improved practices

Code for checks	
✓	Reviewed
✓	Tested in East TN
✓	Iowa landscape design

Adoption of practices depends on credibility with land owners & managers & their willingness to change

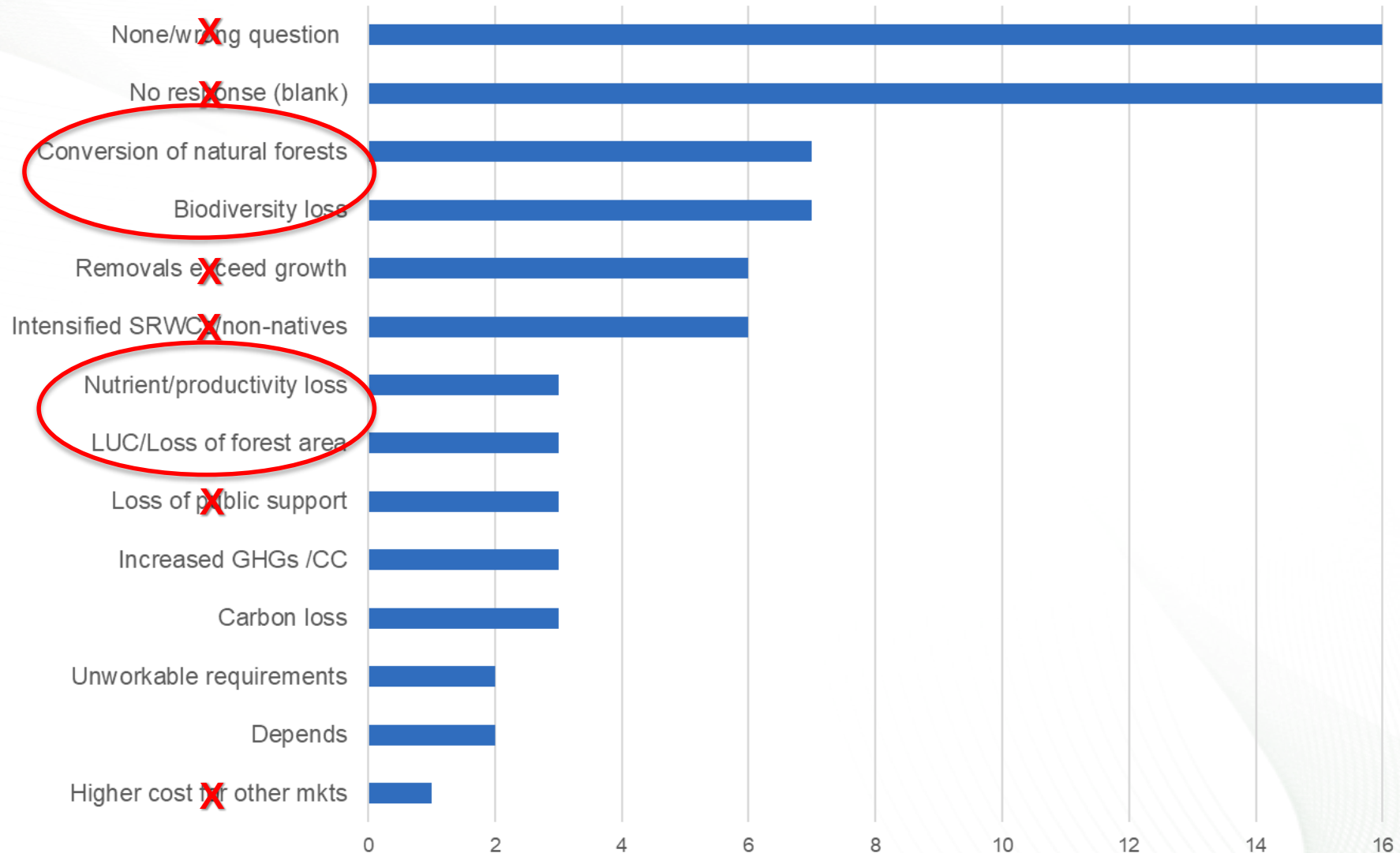
Quantify effects of integrating cellulosic bioenergy production in commercial production landscape



<https://cbes.ornl.gov/>

Common ground?

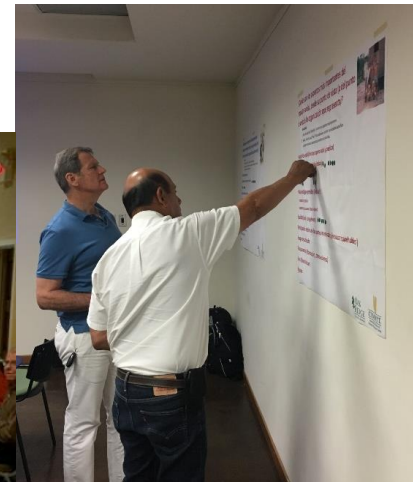
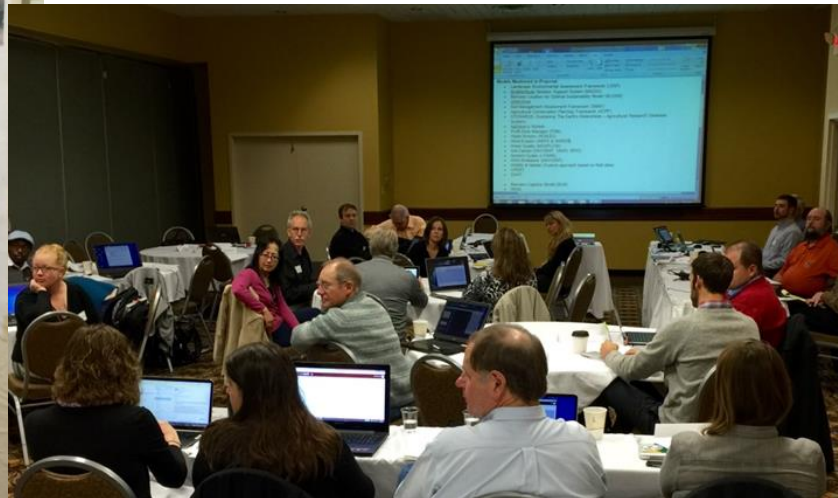
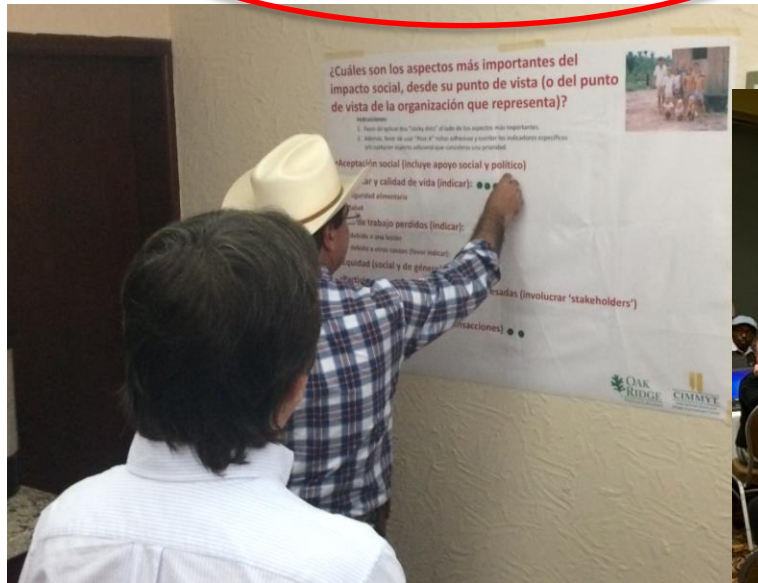
What are greatest risks associated with use of wood for bioenergy?



Kline KL – tabulated from 01 May 2019 workshop participants; Athens GA. N = 61

Opportunities for common ground & collaboration

- Prerequisite conditions
 - Common goals
 - Local champions
 - Multiple levels of committed support, resources
- Potential topics
 - Reference scenario – protocol (guidelines)
 - Causal analysis for LUC – teasing out attribution based on weight of evidence



Thank you!

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Recommendations: Manage landscapes for more sustainable production, multiple services

- Identify populations at high-risk
 - Address equity: targeted interventions
 - Understand local causes of poverty
 - Invest in rural transformation and value-added processing
- Diversify crops and sources of income
 - Increase system efficiency
 - Provide more reliable demand
- Work with local champions & leaders, government, and civil society to:
 - Develop joint strategies
 - Ensure consistent policies
 - Measure progress
 - Apply adaptive management to achieve common goals



USAID photo - Feed the Future annual report 2015

Kline KL et al. (2017) Reconciling biofuels and food security: priorities for action. GCB-Bioenergy.

Recommendations:

- Measure actual effects:
 - Management practices
 - Rural economic growth
 - Price volatility
- Which options support improved management practices and higher, more stable, long-term incomes? → ... these will also improve livelihoods, food security, and soil conservation.
- Get out to the field, listen and enjoy.



Photos: Ron Savage, USAID

Kline et al. (2017) Reconciling biofuels and food security: priorities for action. GCB-Bioenergy.

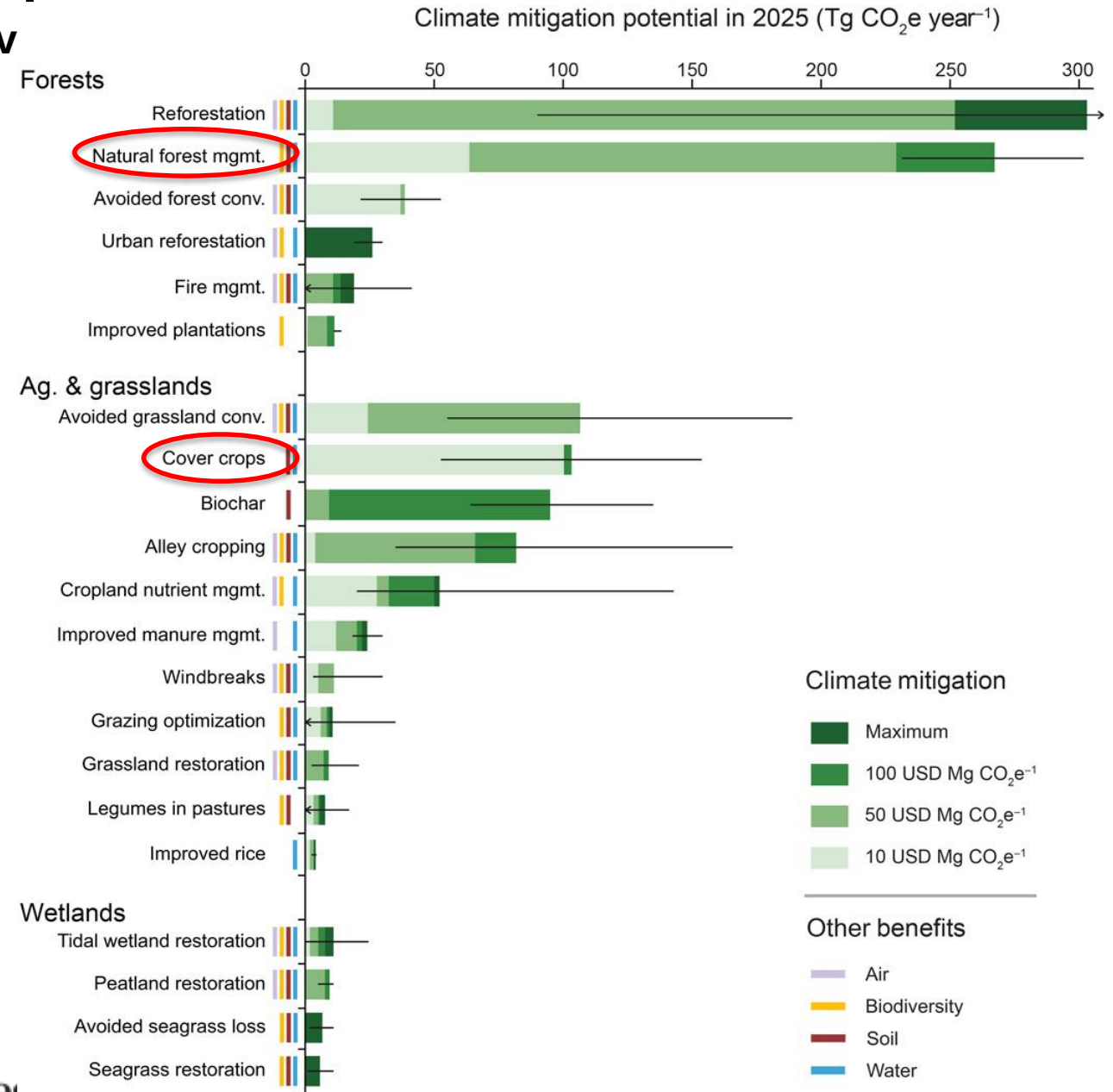
Fig. 1 Climate mitigation potential of 21 NCS in the United States.

Joseph E. Fargione et al. Sci Adv
2018; 4:eaat1869. “Natural
Climate Solutions”

**Needed: funding &
other incentives to do
the right thing.
Integrating bioenergy
can support better
resource management.**

-Kline et al. 2009. “In defense of
biofuels done right”

<https://www.osti.gov/biblio/1015016-defense-biofuels-done-right>



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