



# Regional Pre-Feasibility Scan of Potential Biomass Supply

TOWN OF SUNDRE  
NOVEMBER 2016



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There is a new focus in the bio-economy in Alberta aimed at leveraging one of Alberta's most abundant resources, biomass. Biomass is a renewable resource comprised of biological material taken from living or recently living organisms and as a feedstock is generally processed into one of three categories; bioenergy, biofuels and bioproducts.

An important first step in advancing a regional bio-economy is an inventory and assessment of potential biomass feedstocks. Understanding the make-up of the biomass supply and its location is a valuable resource for communities wishing to establish a business case to attract investment and spur entrepreneurship. A joint initiative between Alberta Economic Development and Trade, Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions and five Alberta communities was established to evaluate the biomass resource potential of these communities leveraging existing biomass data within Alberta's Bio Resource Information Management System (BRIMS). The five participating communities are:

- County of Grande Prairie No. 1,
- Lethbridge County,
- Town of Drayton Valley,
- Town of Sundre,
- Town of Whitecourt.

The BRIMS framework is a province-wide collection of potential biomass resources and ecosystem services, standardized by township. The framework was designed to support a data and information management system for biomass companies to assess the relative supply of theoretical biomass. BRIMS includes biomass resources from agriculture, forests and organic waste. For this initiative, the BRIMS database was a primary input to conduct a regional pre-feasibility scan of potential biomass supply for each community.

This report provides a detailed analysis of theoretical biomass supply within the three biomass catchment zones surrounding the Town of Sundre. Located in west central Alberta, the region boasts a very active agriculture and forest industry. The landscape and industries in the area present some theoretical biomass feedstock opportunities as displayed in the following table.

Location	Agriculture – Theoretical Per Annum Estimates (Crops & Livestock)		Forest - Green Area Theoretical Inventory (Allocated & Unallocated Landbase)		Forest – White Area Theoretical Inventory		Forest – Mill Waste Theoretical Per Annum Estimates		Municipal Solid Waste – Theoretical Per Annum Estimates	
	Tonnes	%	Tonnes	%	Tonnes	%	Tonnes	%	Tonnes	%
0 to 50 km	2,023,715	14%	41,922,297	23%	8,582,719	27%	79,671	66%	3,507	2%
51 to 100 km	5,563,524	39%	62,124,960	33%	9,337,824	30%	41,298	34%	116,249	70%
101 to 150 km	6,633,138	47%	82,724,592	44%	13,581,600	43%	0	0%	45,683	28%
<b>Catchment Area Total</b>	<b>14,220,378</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>186,771,849</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>31,502,142</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>120,969</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>165,439</b>	<b>100%</b>

The theoretical biomass potential illustrates the maximum potential supply that is bio-physically available. There are many industries who are already taking advantage of both primary and secondary forms of this resource supply, including forest products manufacturing (lumber, pulp, wood pellets), agricultural bedding & fertilizers, and energy production. The results of this analysis provides a foundation for building targeted business cases to support a local bio-economy. The theoretical estimates can be further examined for targeted businesses factoring operational, economic and ecological considerations in utilizing these potential feedstocks. This analysis completes the first step in the phased approach of developing the bio-economy in the region. Future phases will contribute to this assessment through an Alberta bio-industrial market study.

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*PLEASE NOTE: The resolution of the data and summary results will vary depending on biomass type, consistent with the existing data utilized within Alberta's Bio-Resource Information Management System (BRIMS). Data used in this analysis is representative of a snap shot in time and varies dependent on biomass type and source of original data. As such, this analysis may not reflect the current or future biomass supply on the landscape. We are utilizing available data as-is, with no field verification or warranty provided. Biomass potential supply numbers provided will be a theoretical estimate and may not be tactically available. Silvacom Ltd. hereby disclaims any liability and shall not be held liable for any damages including, without limitation, direct, indirect or consequential damages including loss of revenue, loss of profit, loss of opportunity or other loss. Any reliance placed on this material is done so strictly at your own risk. This disclaimer applies to all portions of this biomass potential analysis.*

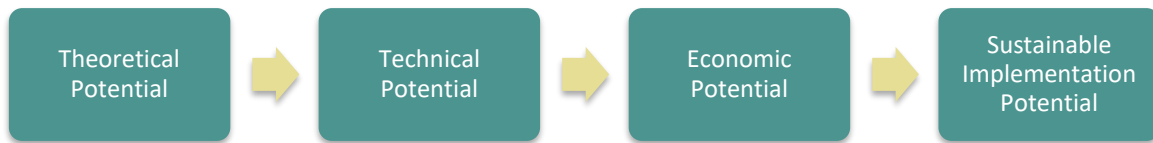
## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

There is a new focus in the bio-economy in Alberta to fully utilize one of Alberta's most abundant resources, biomass [1]. Biomass is a renewable resource comprised of biological material taken from living or recently living organisms. There are three general biomass sources constituting the entire biomass potential of a landscape: forest, agriculture, and organic waste. Historically these resources have been used for traditional means such as forest products manufacturing, however, primary sources and waste streams offer significant potential for use in bioenergy, biofuels and other bioproducts. Advancing the bio-economy has numerous advantages including increasing economic returns from Alberta's natural resources [1] and cleantech innovation to help meet greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets [2].

A cornerstone to advancing the regional bio-economy is an inventory and assessment of potential biomass feedstocks. Understanding the make-up of the biomass supply and its location is a valuable resource for communities wishing to establish a business case to attract investment and spur entrepreneurship. In general, there are four types of biomass potential as described by Biomass Energy Europe [3]:

- **Theoretical potential** – The maximum amount of biomass available for production within fundamental biophysical limits. In the case of biomass from crops and forests, the theoretical potential is the amount of biomass available taking into consideration limitations associated with soil, temperature, solar radiations and rainfall. In the case of residues and waste, the theoretical potential equals the total amount that is produced.
- **Technical potential** – The fraction of theoretical potential that is available given current technological capabilities (e.g. harvesting techniques, infrastructures and accessibility, processing techniques). It also takes into account other land uses (e.g. food, feed and fibre production) as well as ecological constraints (e.g. nature reserves).
- **Economic potential** – The share of technical potential that can be economically, or in other words profitably produced.
- **Sustainable implementation potential** – The fraction of economic potential that can be produced within a certain period and given socio-political realities, including policy incentives and economic, institutional and social constraints. Environmental, economic and social sustainability criteria are also taken into consideration in determining the sustainable implementation potential.



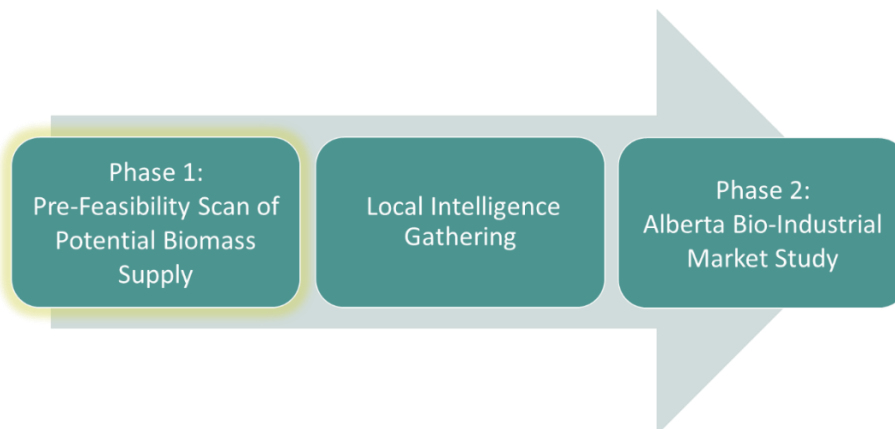
**Figure 1 Types of biomass potential [3]**

A joint initiative between Alberta Economic Development and Trade (AEDT), Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions (AI Bio), and five Alberta communities was established to evaluate the theoretical biomass resource potential of these communities leveraging existing biomass data within Alberta's Bio Resource Information Management System (BRIMS). The five participating communities are:

- County of Grande Prairie No. 1,
- Lethbridge County,
- Town of Drayton Valley,
- Town of Sundre,
- Town of Whitecourt.

This report provides a detailed analysis of theoretical biomass supply within three biomass catchment zones (0-50 km, 51-100 km, 101-150 km) surrounding the Town of Sundre.

The purpose of this report is to conduct a pre-feasibility scan of potential biomass supply in the Town of Sundre (Figure 2). In subsequent phases, biomass utilization and existing infrastructure within the community in support of the bio-economy will be evaluated. In turn, opportunities for technology advancement and the expansion of the local bio-market will be assessed.



**Figure 2 Phase Approach to Building the Bio-Economy**

## 1.2 ABOUT BRIMS

The BRIMS framework is a province-wide collection of potential biomass resources and ecosystem services, standardized by township. This initiative was initiated by AI Bio, with partners Silvacom and Green Analytics. The framework was designed to develop a data and information management system for biomass companies to assess the relative supply of theoretical biomass.

AI Bio's mandate is to "...further research and innovation in the province and make Alberta more competitive in the global economy. AI Bio will meet the research and innovation priorities of the Government by providing leadership and coordination for research and innovation that supports the growth and diversification of Alberta's agriculture, forest, and life sciences sectors". Specifically, AI Bio is dedicated to bio-based research [4].

The BRIMS framework is a multi-phase project. The purpose of Phase 1 was to assess the baseline data availability and the associated gaps in an effort to develop a complete biomass inventory for Alberta. Following this assessment, biomass sources were identified province-wide and theoretical biomass was estimated per township. Phase 1 was completed in 2012. Phase 2 of the framework, completed in 2014 built on the Phase 1 proof of concept and expanded the framework incorporating new inventories and methodologies. The third and final phase of BRIMS, currently in progress is focused on the development of a world-class geospatial web application for viewing, reporting and interacting with biomass and other ecosystem services data (Figure 3). The end goal is to provide a web-based application to support investment decisions related to the use of biomass and other ecosystem services in Alberta.

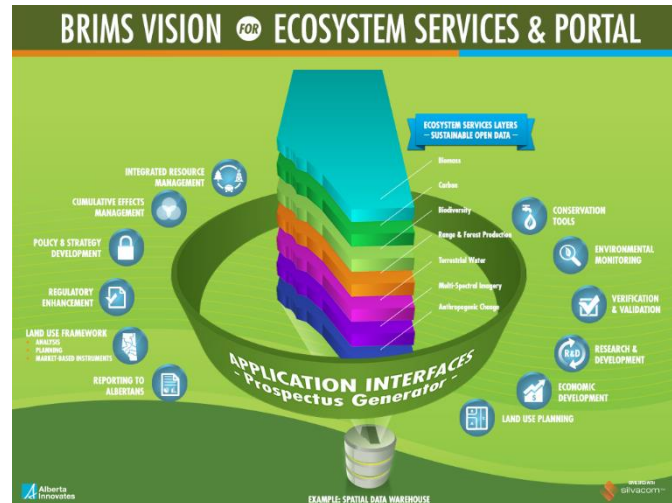


Figure 3 Vision for BRIMS

For more information regarding biomass and its potential, please refer to the Bio Resource Information Management System (BRIMS) webpage.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.brims.ca/>



## 2. METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 STUDY AREA

The Town of Sundre is located in west central Alberta approximately 100 km north-west of the City of Calgary. Sundre's proximity to the Rocky Mountains to the west has helped make it a well-known tourist destination. Popular recreational activities that attract tourists include hiking, camping, Nordic skiing and snowboarding.

Sundre has a population of just over 2,500 residents [5] with a labour force that primarily engaged in agriculture and other resource-based industries [6]. The town's largest employer is Sundre Forest Products.

This analysis focuses on biomass in the region surrounding the town. Three catchment areas were created using concentric "as the crow flies" distance measures around the town. These catchment areas include<sup>2</sup> (Figure 4):

- 0-50 km
- 51-100 km
- 101-150 km

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<sup>2</sup> Only area within Alberta is included in the analysis

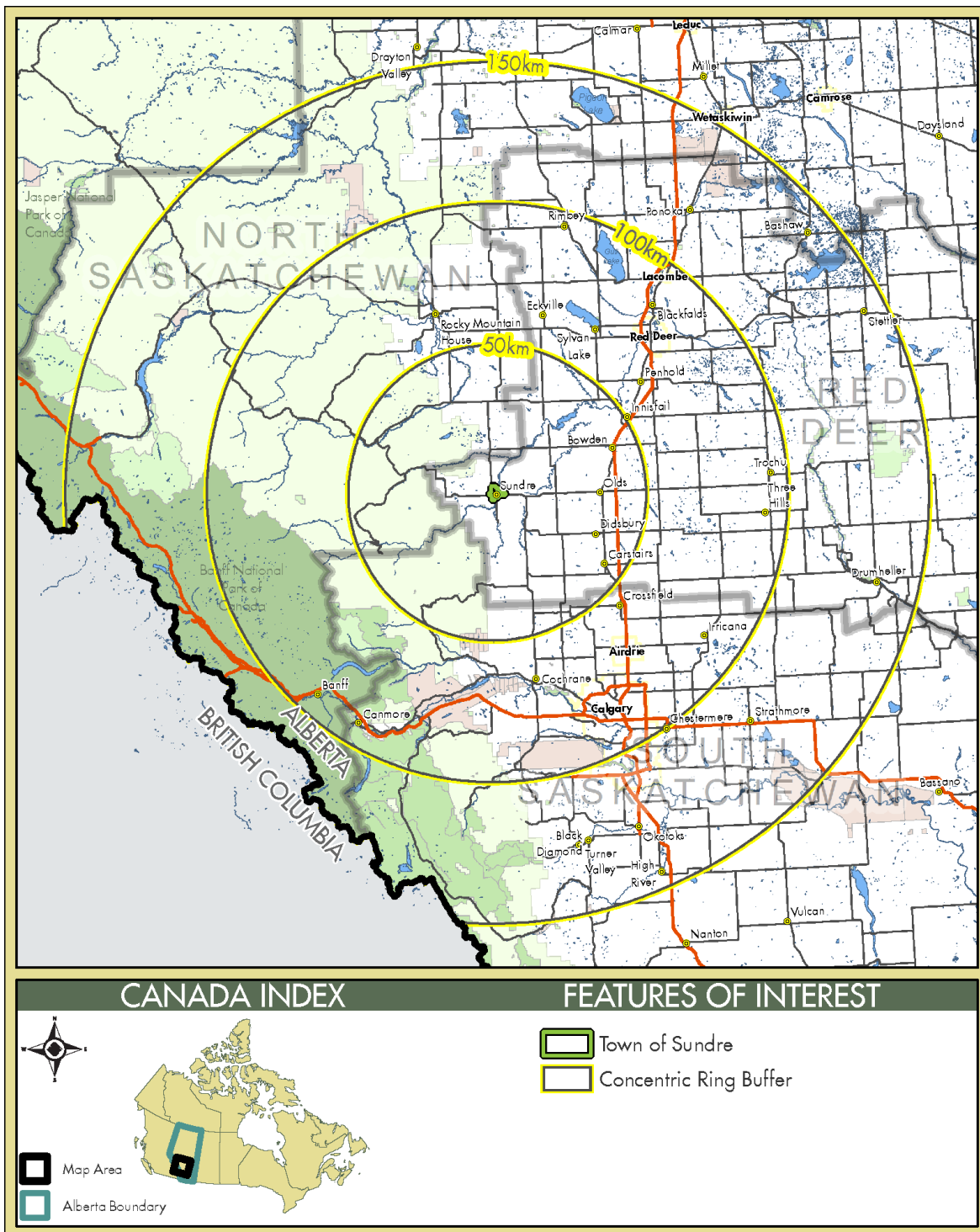


Figure 4 Overview map of the study area

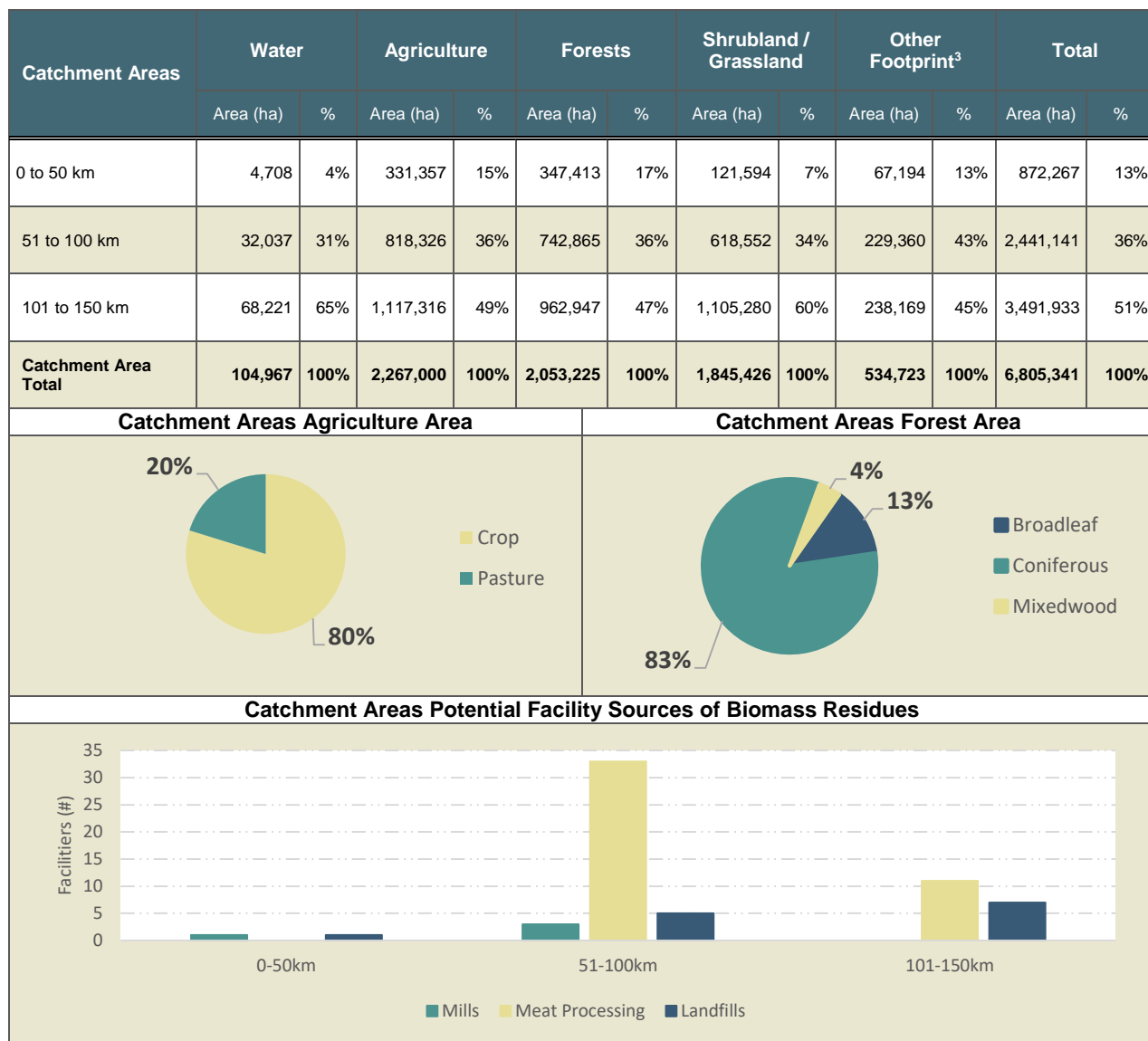
The Town of Sundre is situated within the Red Deer Planning Region (Figure 4) for the province's Land-Use Framework (LUF). LUF is Alberta's approach to managing the province's land and natural resources to achieve long-term economic, environmental and social goals [7]. Under the framework, the province is divided into seven regions that will each have their own regional plan [7]. These plans may influence the sustainable implementation of potential biomass supply in the region. In addition to the Red Deer Planning Region, significant portions of the catchment areas are within the North Saskatchewan Planning Region to the north-west and the South Saskatchewan Planning Region to the south (Figure 4).

Table 1 summarizes the landscape in the biomass catchment areas. As depicted in Figure 5 and Table 1, agriculture is the primary landcover type to the east of the town and coniferous forests are the primary landcover type to the west of the town. In addition to these areas as potential primary sources of biomass, there are potential secondary sources from mill residues, livestock processing facilities and municipal solid waste collected at landfills that are present within the county and the catchment areas (Table 1).

Approximately 13% of the full study area falls within parks and protected areas including portions of Banff National Park, Jasper National Park, wildland parks, and provincial parks. Forest biomass in parks is excluded from the theoretical potential biomass supply.



**Table 1 Study area landscape characteristics**



<sup>3</sup> "Other footprint" includes roads, railways, urban and rural industrial/residential sites, seismic lines, transmission lines, pipelines, reservoirs, and well sites.

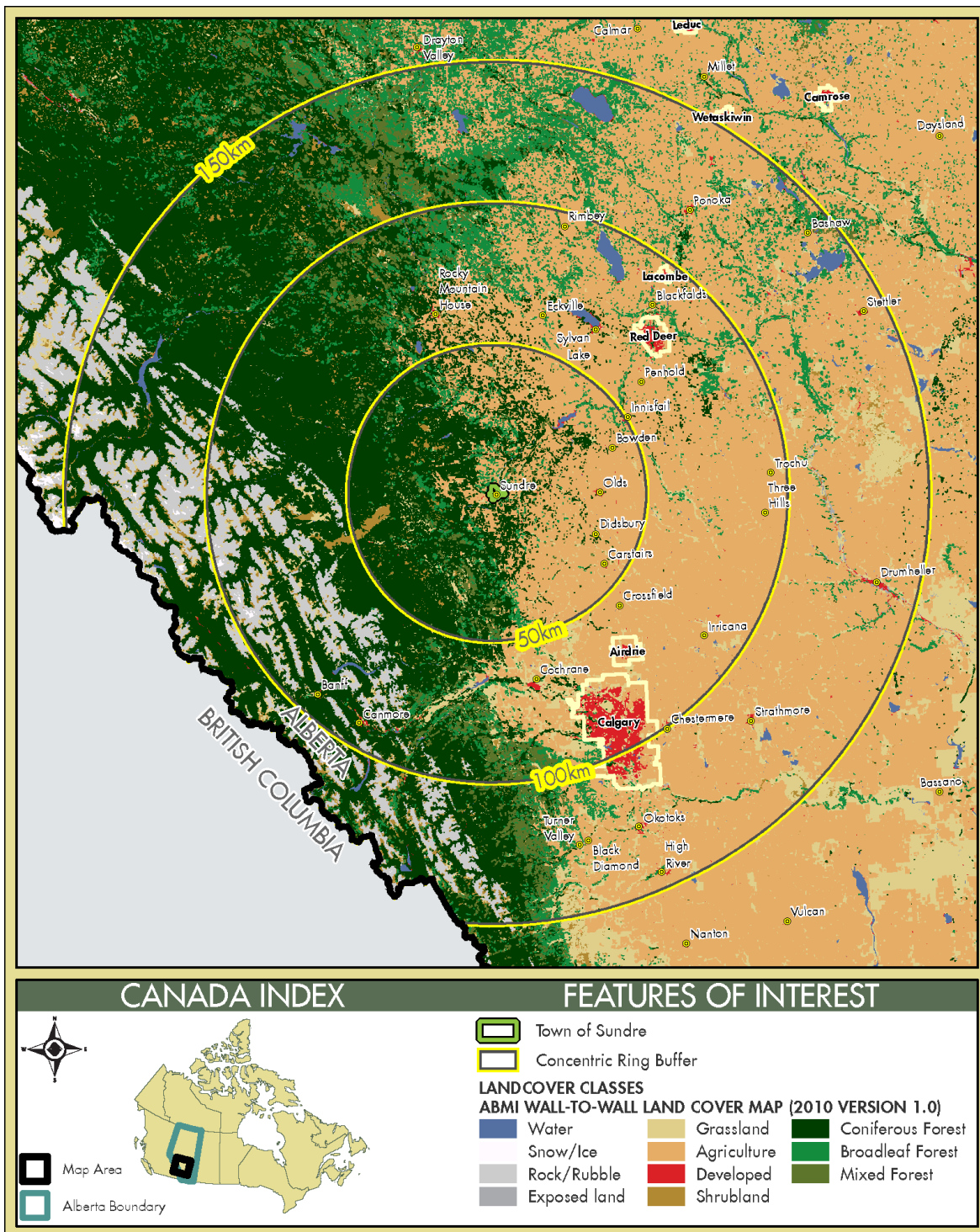


Figure 5 Study area landcover map (Refer to Appendix B for a full size map)

## 2.2 APPROACH

### 2.2.1 LANDBASE DETERMINATION

Data was leveraged from the provincial BRIMS database and used to estimate the total theoretical potential biomass (tonnes)<sup>4</sup> within the study area. To localize and enhance the BRIMS outputs for the study area, a number of additional datasets were incorporated to refine potential biomass estimates. Included in this value added process was identifying multiple land cover types (i.e. forested, grassland, pasture, crop fields, human footprint, etc.) using Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada Annual Crop Inventory and ABMI Human Footprint Inventory for 2012 conditions among others. In addition, regional areas where potential biomass resources do exist but are not currently obtainable (i.e. parks and protected areas) were identified and excluded from potential biomass estimates. Table 2 summarizes a list of key data inputs.

**Table 2 Data Inputs**

Layer	Description	Source	Effective Date
BRIMS	Comprehensive inventory of theoretical biomass potential (tonnes) per township for the province of Alberta.	Alberta Innovates	2015
Municipal Boundaries	Geo-administrative city boundaries	AltaLis	2016
Green/White Area	The green and white areas were used to separate biomass potential calculations	AltaLis	2011
Parks and Protected Areas	Parks and Protected areas were identified as biomass is not currently accessible within these regions	AltaLis	2012
Annual Crop Inventory	Annual crop inventory field classification and mapping	Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada	2015

<sup>4</sup> Tonnes are defined as per the BRIMS framework and can refer to dry tonnes, ODTs, or gross tonnes, dependent on the biomass source.



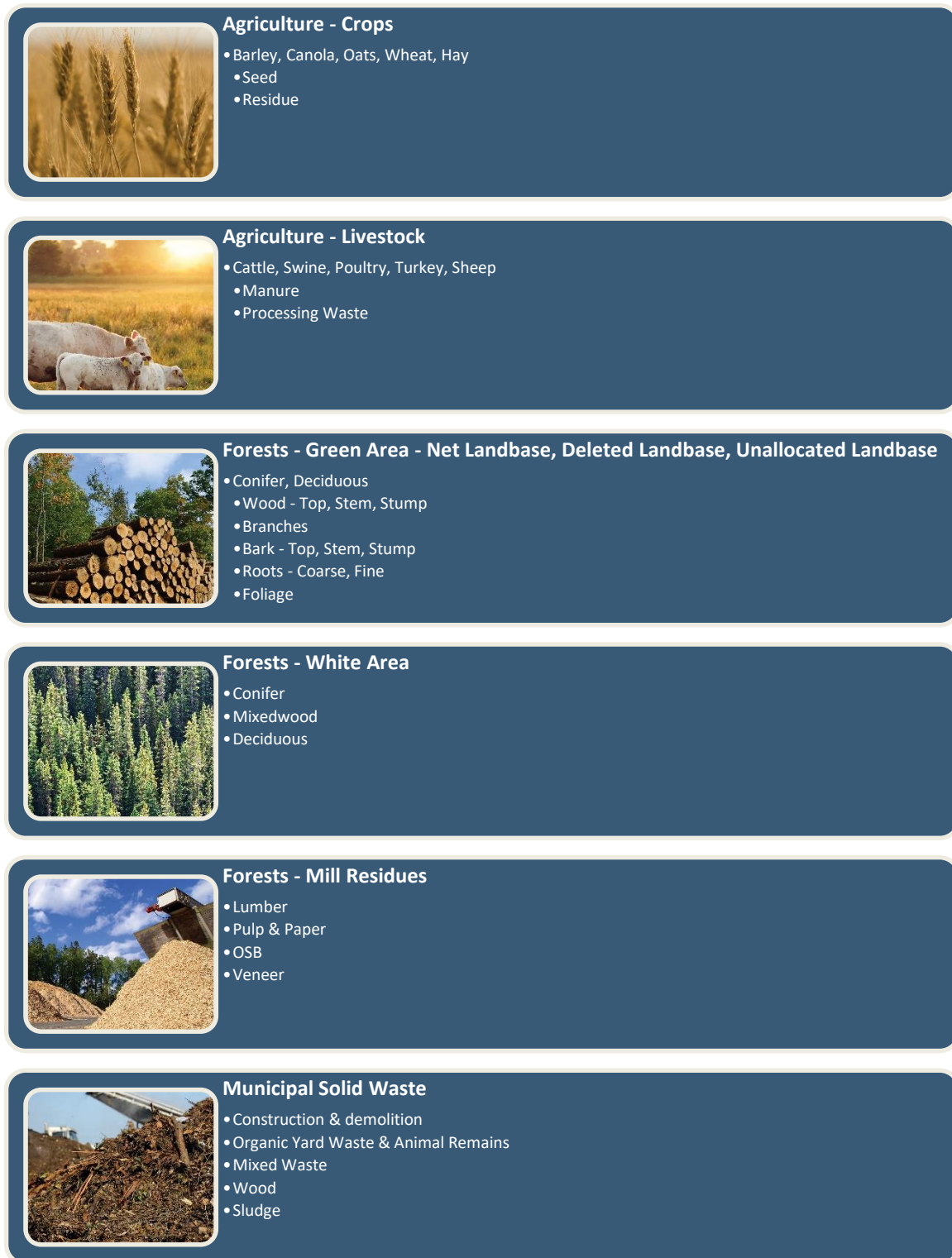
Layer	Description	Source	Effective Date
ABMI Human Footprint Inventory for 2012 Conditions (Version 3)	The ABMI Human Footprint Map was used to identify developed areas	ABMI	2010
Forest Management Areas	FMA's were used to estimate the amount of forest in the green area that is currently allocated	AltaLis	2013

## 2.2.2 BRIMS FRAMEWORK

### 2.2.2.1 BIOMASS POOLS

The BRIMS framework organizes the various forms and sources of theoretical potential biomass in Alberta into a scalable hierarchy of biomass pools (Figure 6) and includes the following components:

1. Forest biomass includes all secondary products derived from wood. Within BRIMS these include:
  - a. Stem wood: biomass obtained from pre-commercial and commercial thinning, as well as final felling of forests;
  - b. Primary forest residues (i.e. logging residues);
  - c. Secondary forest residues obtained from industry by-products such as sawdust, wood chips, bark, etc.; and
  - d. Trees outside of Alberta's green area (forested area) such as trees in urban areas along sidewalks, and other infrastructural areas.
2. Agricultural biomass includes biomass derived from energy crops, agricultural residues, and animal waste. Examples of these include:
  - a. Oil containing crops (i.e. canola, etc.);
  - b. Starch crops (i.e. wheat, barley, etc.);
  - c. Harvest residues (i.e. straw);
  - d. Manure from livestock; and
  - e. Animal processing waste.
3. Lastly, organic waste encompasses other potential biomass sources including:
  - a. Biodegradable municipal waste



**Figure 6 BRIMS framework**

### 2.2.2.2 BIOMASS CONSTITUENTS

Biomass constituents are the properties and sub-components that may be of interest for prospective industries helping to bring the supply and demand chains closer together. Figure 7 illustrates the framework utilized for reporting these in BRIMS<sup>5</sup>.

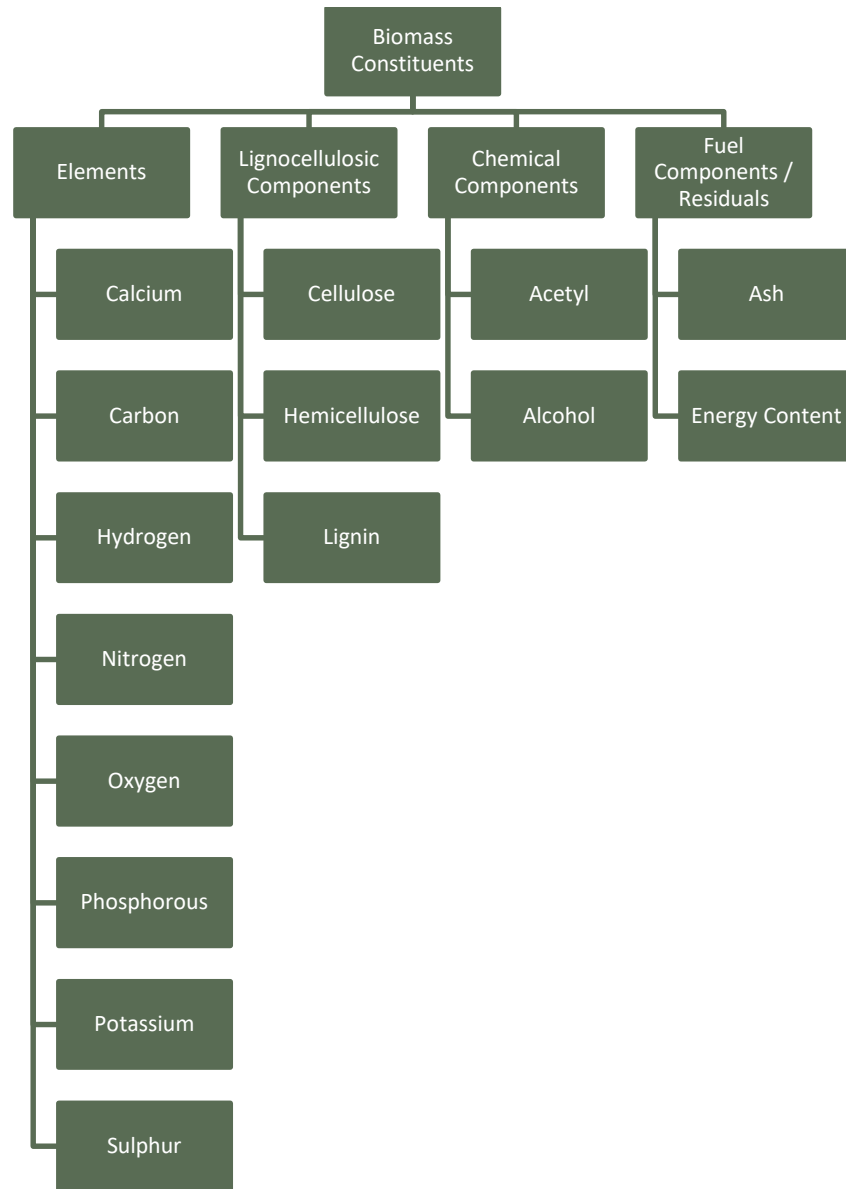


Figure 7 BRIMS biomass constituents framework

<sup>5</sup> Biomass properties and constituents may only be applicable and relevant to specific biomass pools in the BRIMS framework.



### 3. RESULTS

The majority of potentially available biomass in the catchment area comes from forest biomass in the Green Area forested areas. After Green Area forest biomass, White Area forest biomass is the next most prominent. Following forested areas, agricultural crops offer the most biomass tonnage, followed by livestock related biomass, MSW, and then mill residues.

Forest biomass is a stock account of potentially available biomass. Agricultural biomass and MSW biomass are flow accounts of potentially available biomass which refresh yearly as new crops are planted or new livestock harvested, etc. This should be considered when comparisons of forest and other biomass types are included in decision-making processes.

The following sections summarize the results categorically by biomass source. Section 3.4 summarizes the total biomass potential for the catchment areas around Sundre. Potential biomass supply estimates provided are a theoretical estimate and may not be tactically available. Recoverable factors are not taken into account where some potential biomass is likely to remain in the field or the forest floor. Furthermore, some summarized potential biomass is located in areas that may not be feasible for recovery and other sources may already be committed to alternative uses.

The resolution of the analysis and results will vary depending on biomass type, consistent with the existing data utilized within BRIMS. Tonnes are summarized as *dry tonnes or oven-dried tonnes*, consistent with data sources leveraged in the BRIMS framework, unless otherwise stated.

For detailed results of the biomass pools, please refer to Appendix A.

#### 3.1 AGRICULTURE

##### 3.1.1 CROPS

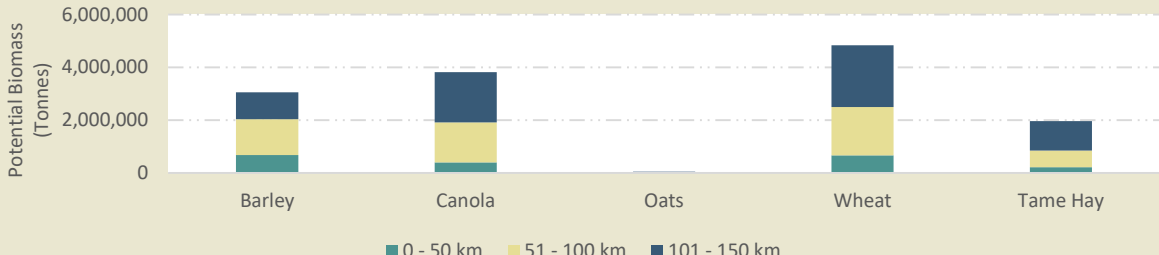
Biomass sourced from agricultural crops has been separated into crop seed/product and crop residue. Crop seed/product represents the total tonnage of crops in the area of interest (oven dried tonnes) and crop residue is an estimate of remaining portions. Currently, only materials remaining in the field following harvest are estimated in the BRIMS framework as potential harvest residue sources. Potential biomass was estimated based on the major crops summarized in the BRIMS framework (Figure 6). The biomass estimates per hectare were leveraged into the productive agricultural land outlined in the study area landbase. Estimates are based on a per annum perspective, using 2014 data. Estimates will vary from year to year as crop yields and the amount of area in crops varies annually.

**Table 3 Theoretical potential agriculture crop biomass<sup>6</sup>**

Catchment Areas	Crop Seed		Crop Residue		Total Potential	
	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent
0 to 50 km	821,400	16%	1,146,053	13%	<b>1,967,452</b>	<b>14%</b>
51 to 100 km	2,110,136	40%	3,239,688	38%	<b>5,349,824</b>	<b>39%</b>
101 to 150 km	2,283,738	44%	4,110,388	48%	<b>6,394,126</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>Catchment Area Total</b>	<b>5,215,274</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8,496,129</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13,711,403</b>	<b>100%</b>

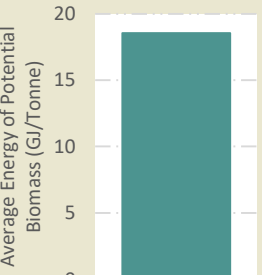
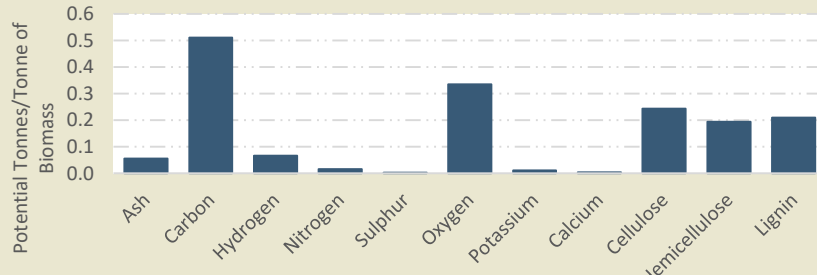
  

**Catchment Areas (Crop Seed + Crop Residue)**



Crop	0 - 50 km	51 - 100 km	101 - 150 km
Barley	~500,000	~1,000,000	~1,000,000
Canola	~500,000	~1,500,000	~1,500,000
Oats	~100,000	~100,000	~100,000
Wheat	~500,000	~2,000,000	~2,500,000
Tame Hay	~200,000	~500,000	~1,000,000

**Table 4. Constituent Summary of Potential Crop Biomass**

Energy Content	Constituents
 <p>Average Energy of Potential Biomass (GJ/Tonne)</p>	 <p>Potential Tonnes/Tonne of Biomass</p>

<sup>6</sup> Oven dry tonnes per year as per the BRIMS framework

### 3.1.2 LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

Biomass sourced from livestock<sup>7</sup> can be separated into manure and animal processing waste. Biomass estimates for cattle, swine, chickens, turkeys and sheep were collected per township for both manure and animal processing within the BRIMS framework. This estimate was leveraged into productive agricultural areas within the study area landbase. Estimates are based on a per annum perspective. Estimates will vary year to year, depending on the amount of animals raised each year.

**Table 5. Theoretical Potential Livestock Biomass**

Location	Livestock Manure		Processing Waste <sup>8</sup>		Total Potential	
	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent
0 to 50 km	56,263	13%	0	0%	<b>56,263</b>	<b>11%</b>
51 to 100 km	158,466	37%	55,234	72%	<b>213,700</b>	<b>42%</b>
101 to 150 km	217,780	50%	21,232	28%	<b>239,012</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>Catchment Area Total</b>	<b>432,509</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>76,466</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>508,975</b>	<b>100%</b>

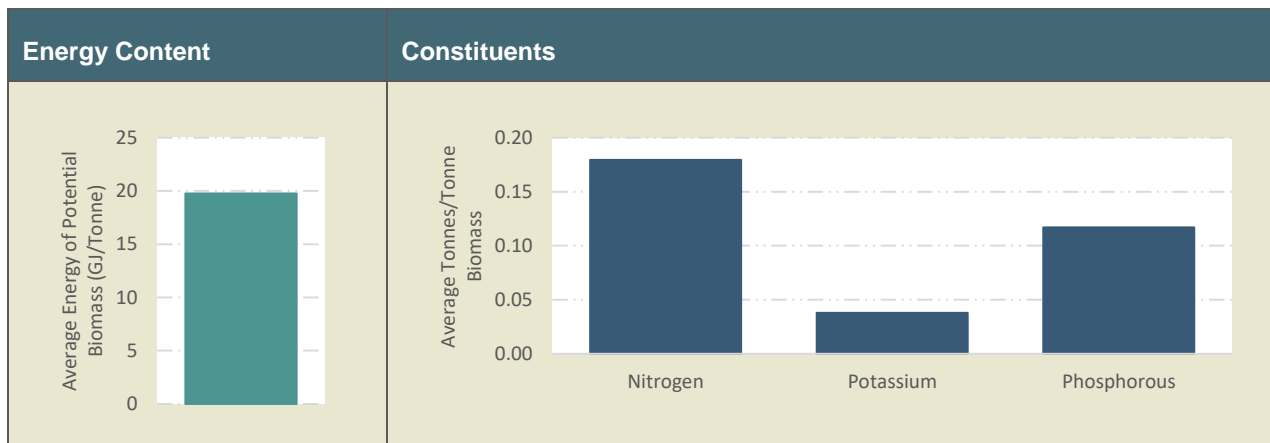
Catchment Areas (Livestock Manure +Processing Waste)					
<p>Potential Manure Biomass (Tonnes)</p> <p>0 20,000 40,000 60,000 80,000</p> <p>Cattle Swine Poultry Sheep Turkey</p> <p>0-50km 51-100km 101-150km</p>					

<sup>7</sup> For the purposes of this study poultry is defined as livestock

<sup>8</sup> Animals may be shipped to processing plants from other regions. The BRIMS framework does not include an empirical estimate of kilograms of animal processing waste per township. An estimate is computed from the number of animals raised within the region, based on Census Canada data (2010).



**Table 6. Constituent Summary of Potential Livestock Biomass**



## 3.2 WOODY MATERIALS

### 3.2.1 FORESTED GREEN AREA

The Green Area covers approximately 58% of the province of Alberta [8]. Primary land uses in this area include timber production, oil and gas development, tourism and recreation and conservation of natural spaces. Nearly all of the Green Area is publically owned.

Because the majority of the Green Area is forested, there are many potential sources of biomass. The BRIMS framework identifies potential biomass sources within the Green Area as all parts of the tree including not only the stem but also the top wood, top bark, branches, needles or leaves and belowground biomass (roots).

The BRIMS framework also separates biomass sources into net landbase stands, landbase deletion stands, and unallocated stands. Net landbase stands are comprised of the operable forested area. Deletion stands contain the area of forests that are currently inoperable for forest operations. This includes but is not limited to forest stands that are within defined water buffers, on steep slopes, low timber productivity or other Forest Management Agreement (FMA) specific operability criteria. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that forest area outside of an FMA area is unallocated, although portions of this area may be entirely or partially allocated under a quota or other agreement. Forested Green Area accounts for about 22% of the total study area.

Estimates are based on the amount of theoretical potential biomass within the area of interest and do not account for forest regrowth or other ecological or sustainability constraints. Estimates do not represent an annual supply. In other words, the theoretical potential biomass includes all the standing biomass in the forested areas.

Table 7. Theoretical Potential Green Area Forest Biomass<sup>9</sup>

Location	Allocated		Unallocated		Total Potential	
	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent
0 to 50 km	31,777,253	24%	10,145,043	20%	41,922,297	23%
51 to 100 km	43,843,535	32%	18,281,425	36%	62,124,960	33%
101 to 150 km	60,405,302	44%	22,319,289	44%	82,724,592	44%
<b>Catchment Area Total</b>	<b>136,026,090</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50,745,758</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>186,771,849</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Catchment Areas Wood Type (Allocated + Unallocated)**

Wood Type	0-50km	51-100km	101-150km
Stem Wood	10	15	20
Top Wood	0.5	0.5	0.5
Stem Bark	2	2	2
Top Bark	0.5	0.5	0.5
Foliage	2	2	2
Branch	1	1	1

Table 8. Constituent Summary of Potential Green Area Forest Biomass

Energy Content	Constituents

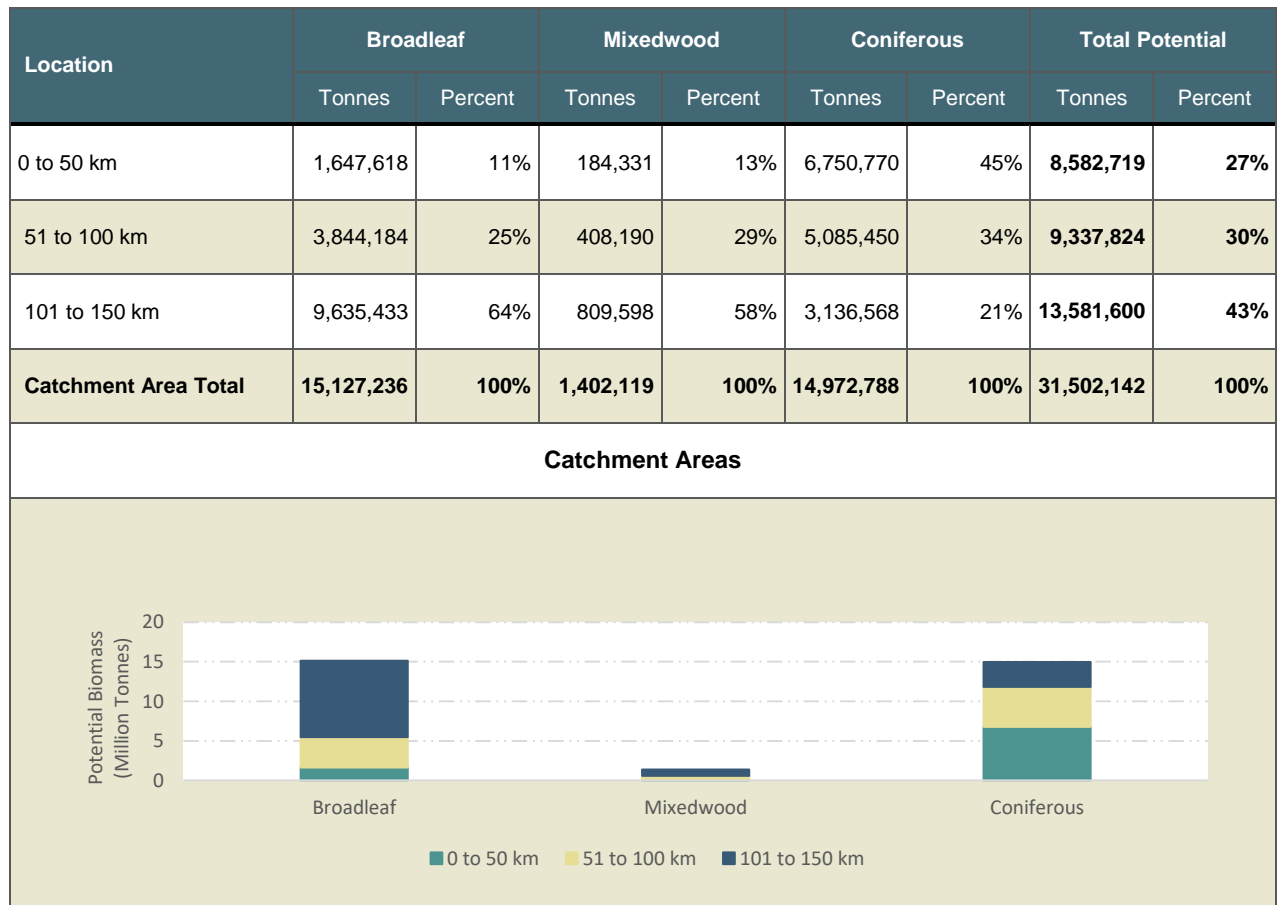
<sup>9</sup> Aboveground and belowground biomass in oven dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework. Estimates do not represent annual supply.

### 3.2.2 FORESTED WHITE AREA

The White Area in Alberta is comprised of settled lands and covers approximately 42% of the province [8]. Primary land uses include settlements, agriculture, oil and gas development, tourism and recreation, and conservation of natural spaces. Roughly 75% of the White Area is privately owned [8].

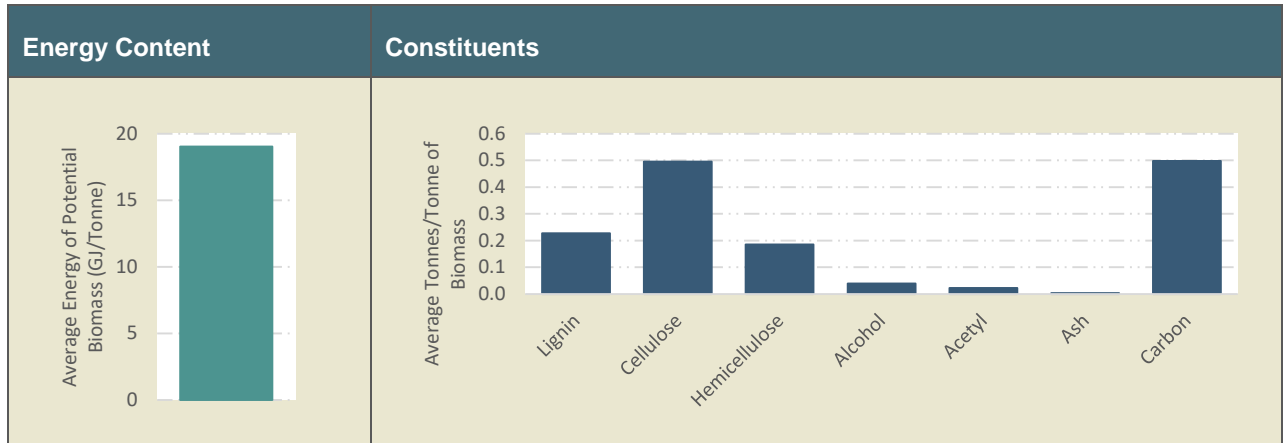
Approximately 5% of the study area is forested White Area which includes private woodlots, plantations and shelterbelts. Potential biomass can be sourced from these woodlots. Biomass summaries include all parts of the tree, including top wood, top bark, stem wood, etc. Excluded from this analysis are stump wood and stump bark as this data is not currently available within the BRIMS framework. Estimates are based on the amount of theoretical potential biomass within the area of interest and do not account for forest regrowth or other ecological or sustainability constraints. Estimates do not represent an annual supply.

**Table 9. Theoretical Potential White Area Forest Biomass<sup>10</sup>**



<sup>10</sup> Aboveground biomass in oven dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework. Estimates do not represent annual supply.

Table 10. Constituent Summary of White Area Forest Biomass



### 3.2.3 MILL RESIDUES

Operating forest product mills were identified within the study area. The BRIMS framework was then leveraged to estimate potential biomass within the region through sourcing waste from saw mills, veneer mills, OSB mills, and pulp and paper mills<sup>11</sup>. Estimates are based on the amount of residue produced by a forest product mill per annum. This residue may already be allocated to other sources and not tactically available. Estimates will also vary year to year as mill production varies. Three lumber mills and a veneer mill are operating in the area of interest. There are currently no operating pulp or OSB mills in the catchment areas.

<sup>11</sup> Mill waste summarizes the residue surplus from operating mills within the area of interest based on average log volume consumed (m<sup>3</sup>). Mills with no production data available and small mills (<100,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr) are excluded from the analysis

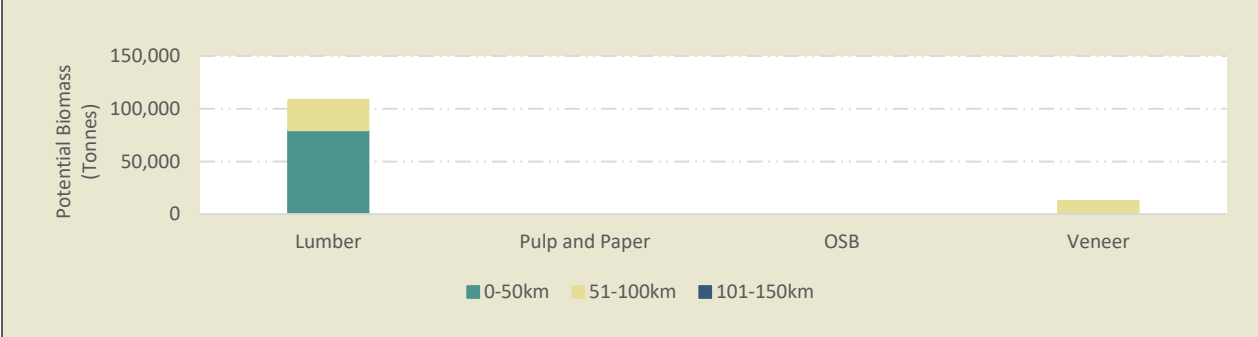


Table 11. Theoretical Potential Mill Waste Biomass<sup>12</sup>

Location	Lumber		Pulp & Paper		OSB		Veneer		Total Potential	
	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent	Tonnes	Percent
0 to 50 km	79,671	73%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	79,671	66%
51 to 100 km	28,842	27%	0	0%	0	0%	12,456	100%	41,298	34%
101 to 150 km	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Catchment Area Total</b>	<b>108,513</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>12,456</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>120,969</b>	<b>100%</b>

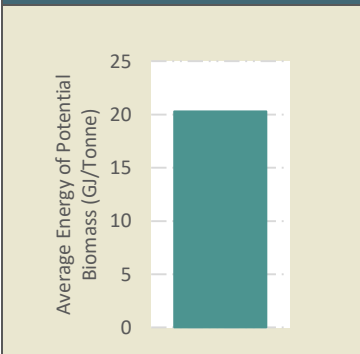
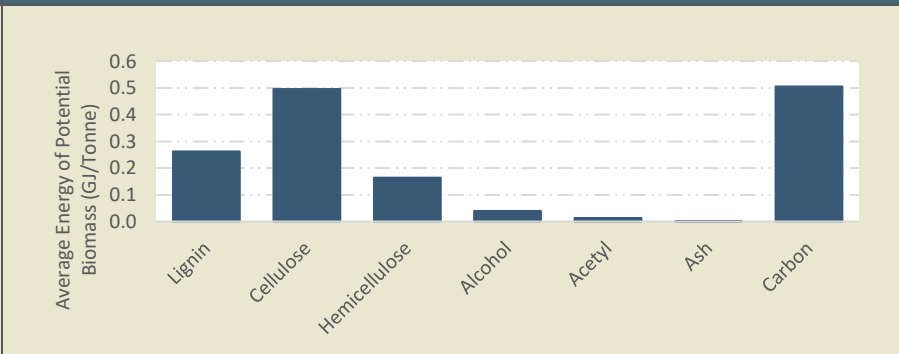
  

**Catchment Areas Mill Residues**



Product	0-50km (Tonnes)	51-100km (Tonnes)	101-150km (Tonnes)
Lumber	79,671	28,842	0
Pulp and Paper	0	0	0
OSB	0	0	0
Veneer	0	12,456	0

Table 12. Constituent Summary of Potential Mill Residue Biomass

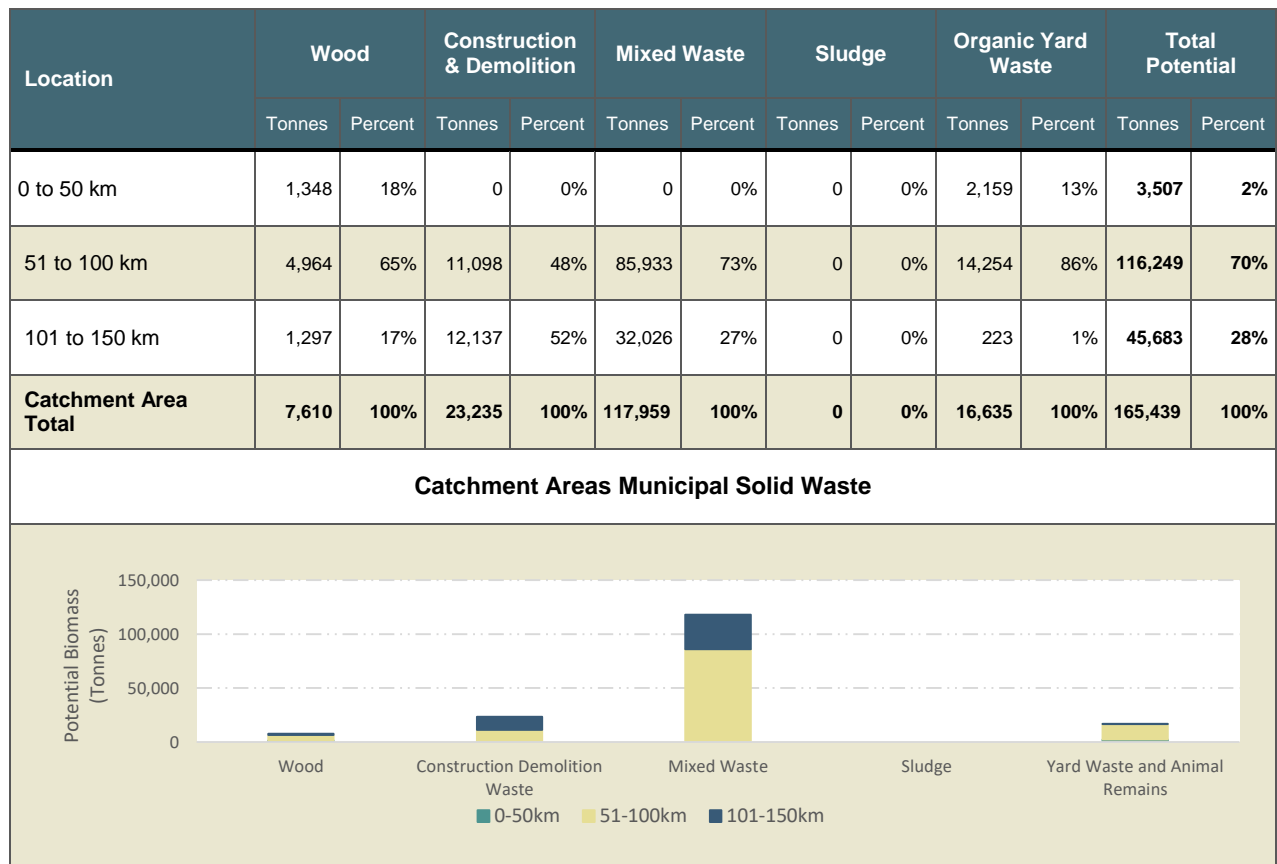
Energy Content	Constituents
	

<sup>12</sup> Per annum estimate in oven dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework

### 3.3 MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE

Landfills located within the study area were identified. Estimates of potential biomass are based on five types of municipal solid waste: construction and demolition (wood components only), organic yard waste, wood, sludge and mixed solid waste (organic components only). Estimates are based on the annual incoming waste to landfill facilities as reported to the Government of Alberta. Other sources of waste are not currently identified in the BRIMS framework. Estimates for sludge are from landfill facilities only and assumed to be dry weight, however, landfill reports do not necessarily specify whether or not reported weights are dry or wet. Other sources of municipal solid waste are dry weight and this is reflected in the biomass calculations.

**Table 13. Theoretical Potential Municipal Solid Waste Biomass**



### 3.4 TOTAL THEORETICAL BIOMASS POTENTIAL

Investment in and innovation associated with biomass in Alberta will likely depend on sound information about the availability of biomass resources in the province. Table 14 summarizes theoretical biomass potential in the region. Figure 8 and Figure 9 illustrates the abundance of biomass within the catchment areas surrounding the Town of Sundre.

**Table 14. Total Theoretical Biomass**

Category	Catchment Areas			
	0 to 50km (Tonnes)	51 to 100km (Tonnes)	101 to 150km (Tonnes)	Catchment Area Total Potential (Tonnes)
Crop Biomass <sup>13</sup>	1,967,452	5,349,824	6,394,126	<b>13,711,403</b>
Livestock Biomass <sup>14</sup>	56,263	213,700	239,012	<b>508,975</b>
Green Area Forest Biomass <sup>15</sup>	41,922,297	62,124,960	82,724,592	<b>186,771,849</b>
White Area Forest Biomass <sup>16</sup>	8,582,719	9,337,824	13,581,600	<b>31,502,142</b>
Mill Waste Biomass <sup>17</sup>	79,671	41,298	0	<b>120,969</b>
MSW Biomass <sup>18</sup>	3,507	116,249	45,683	<b>165,439</b>

<sup>13</sup> Crop seed and residue per annum estimated in oven dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework

<sup>14</sup> Manure and processing waste per annum estimated in dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework

<sup>15</sup> Aboveground and belowground biomass in oven dry tonnes in the allocated and unallocated landbase as per the BRIMS framework. Estimates do not represent annual supply.

<sup>16</sup> Aboveground biomass in oven dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework. Estimates do not represent annual supply.

<sup>17</sup> Per annum estimate in oven dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework.

<sup>18</sup> Wood, construction & demolition, mixed waste, organic waste and residential sludge per annum estimated in dry tonnes as per the BRIMS framework

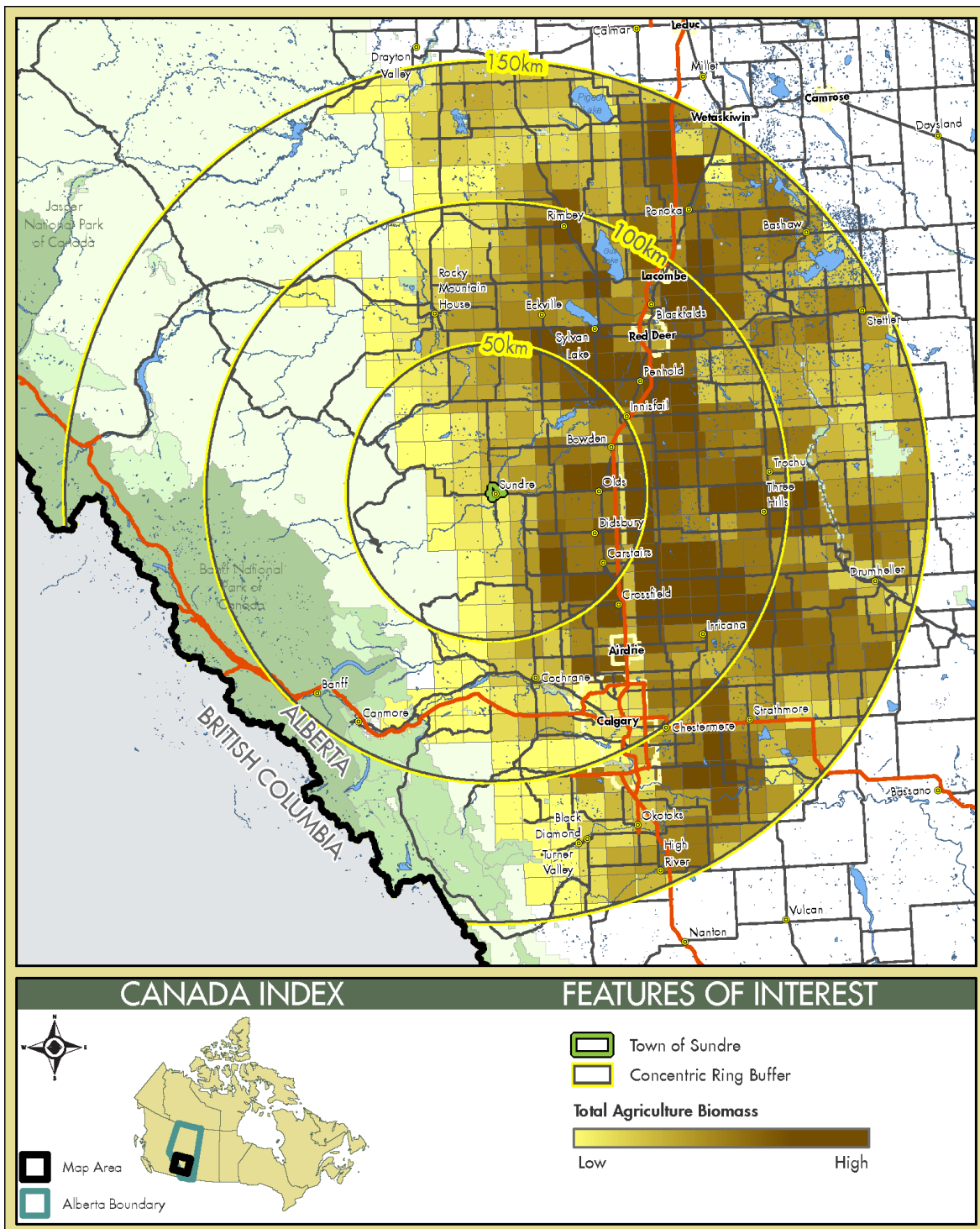


Figure 8 Map of agriculture biomass (See Appendix B for full size map)



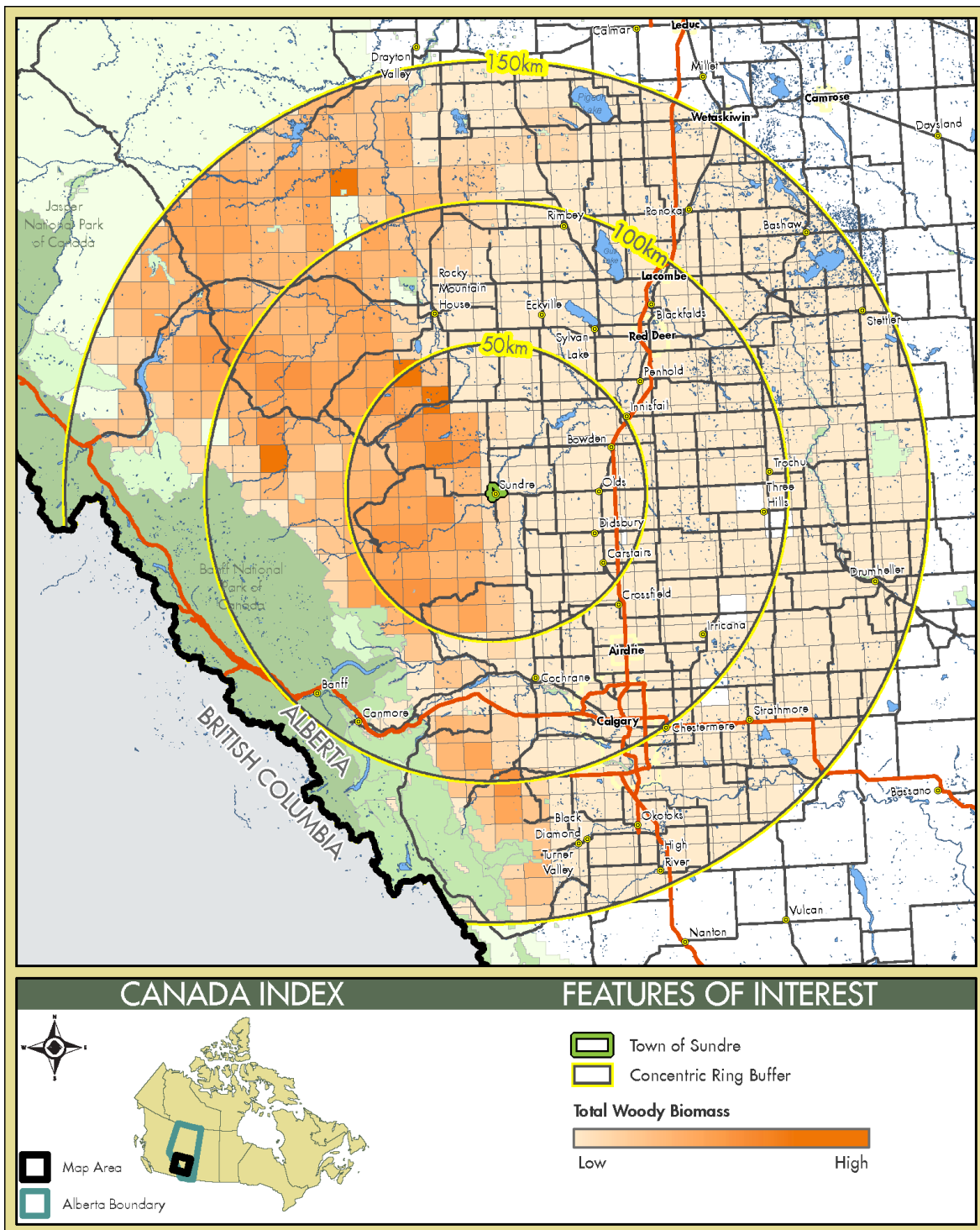


Figure 9 Map of woody biomass (See Appendix B for full size maps)

## 4. NEXT STEPS

Biomass resource assessments evaluate the resource potential of a given location and provide critical information to support decision-making processes in guiding bio-industry development strategies. This initiative between AEDT, AI Bio and five Alberta communities analyses the make-up and distribution of theoretical potential biomass supply providing a cornerstone to advancing regional bio-economies.

The pre-feasibility scan of potential biomass supply summarized the theoretical resource potential within three catchment zones around the Town of Sundre using a spatially explicit, comprehensive biomass inventory, BRIMS. The analysis illustrates the region's full resource potential in forests, agriculture and organic wastes, which in turn presents opportunities for the community.

The information in this report will help guide the development of targeted business strategies to expand the bio-economy. The analysis can be further refined for targeted industries to examine the technical, economic and sustainable implementation biomass potential. Further regional analysis to assess biomass potential include:

- Analysis of existing industrial allocations and utilization of potential biomass sources
- Technical availability of biomass sources based on environmental constraints, harvesting techniques, processing techniques and infrastructure / accessibility requirements
- Economic potential of biomass resources considering harvesting techniques, processing techniques, transportation costs, etc.
- Sustainable implementation potential of biomass resources considering local policy, social constraints, ecosystem services assessment, etc.
- Risk assessment of biomass feedstocks examining historical variability in supply, climate change and other supply chain factors.

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## APPENDIX A: THE BRIMS FRAMEWORK

Accompanying this document is a spreadsheet that contains a detailed summary of biomass pools as per the BRIMS framework.



## APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL MAPS