

Northwest (US) Advanced Renewables Alliance (NARA):

## An Innovative Approach to Identify Regional Bioenergy Infrastructure Sites

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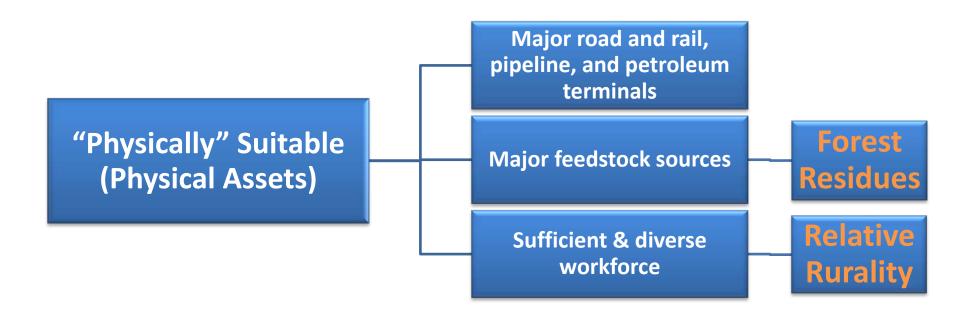


Develop socially acceptable & economically viable biofuel solutions for the U.S. Pacific Northwest (NARA Region)

> Identify communities that are "physically" suitable & "socially" receptive to NARA Region biojet industry economic development



# I. Introduction







# Social Assets – Creative Capital

# **Creative Capital**

- Predicts innovation, diversity and tolerance; powers regional economic growth; (Florida 2003)
- Presence of arts-related aspects of local communities - signals potential for economic development (Florida 2002)



## Social Assets – Social Capital

# Social Capital

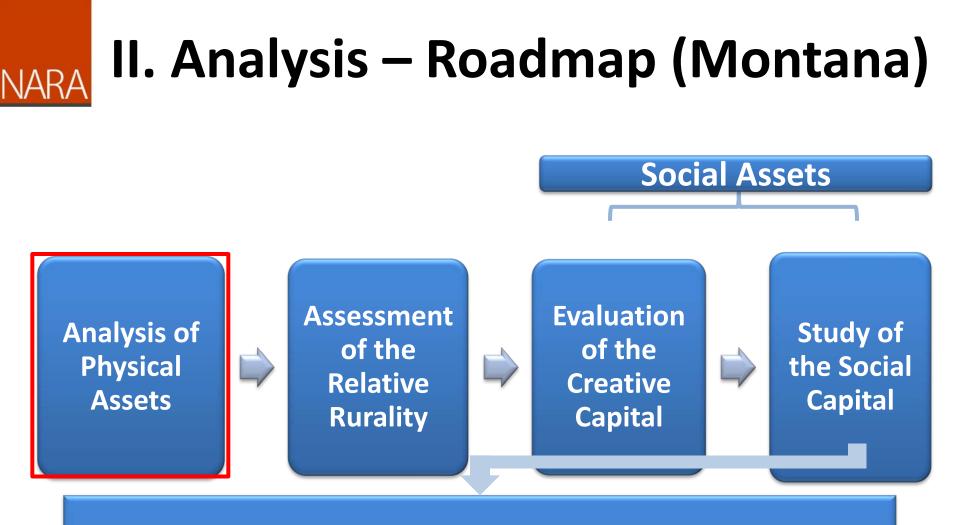
- Features of social life networks, norms & trust – enables participants to act together more effectively for shared interests (Putnam; Fukuyama)
- Extensive networks of voluntary associations (Inglehart)



# Communities with:High Creative CapitalHigh Social Capital



May act collectively to exploit NARA Region opportunities (for biofuel production)



#### Identification of Possible NARA "Sites" (in Montana)

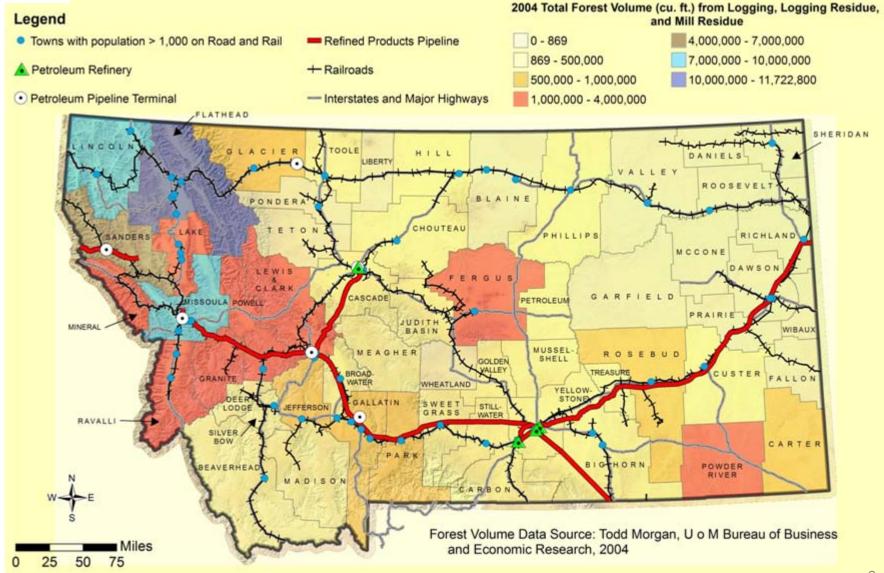
# NARA Physical Asset Analysis – GIS (MT)

# Physical Asset Assumptions:

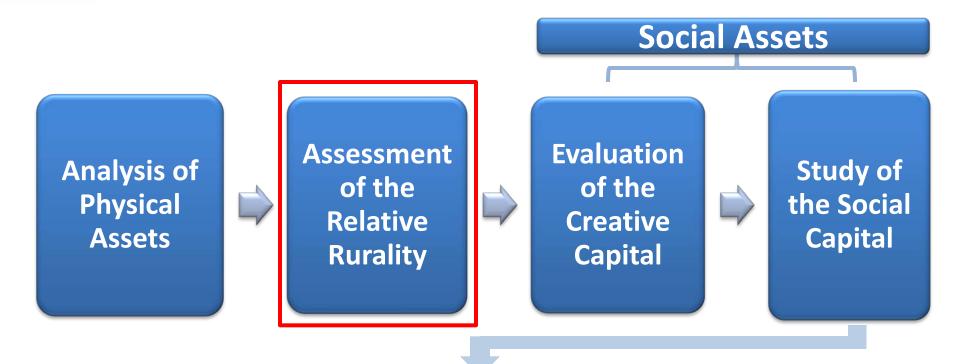
- 1. Must have a population > 1,000
- 2. Located close to major road & rail network
- 3. Located near a pipeline terminal
- 4. Near large supply of woody biomass

#### Population, Roads/Rail, Pipelines, & Forest Residues

#### NARA



# NARA II. Analysis – Roadmap (Montana)



#### Identification of Possible NARA "Sites" (in Montana)



# Index for Relative Rurality (IRR)

- Estimates the Degree of Rurality for each county
- Based on: Population size, Density, Percentage of urban residents, and Distance to the closest metropolitan area
- Effect of change in **policy, environmental and/or cultural factors** on the change in **prosperity**

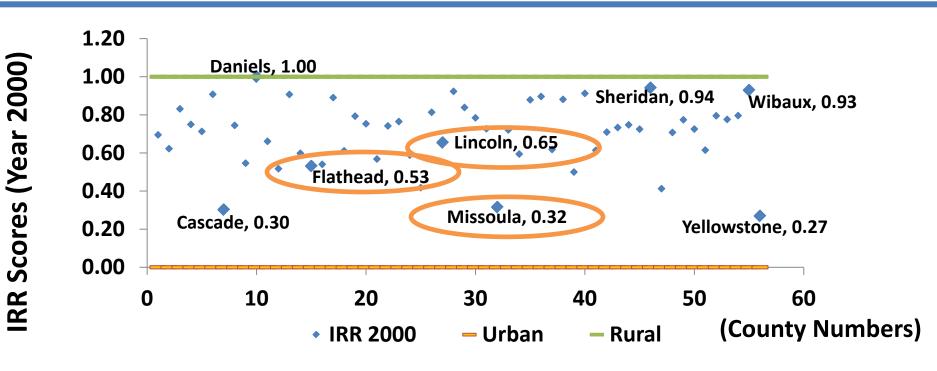
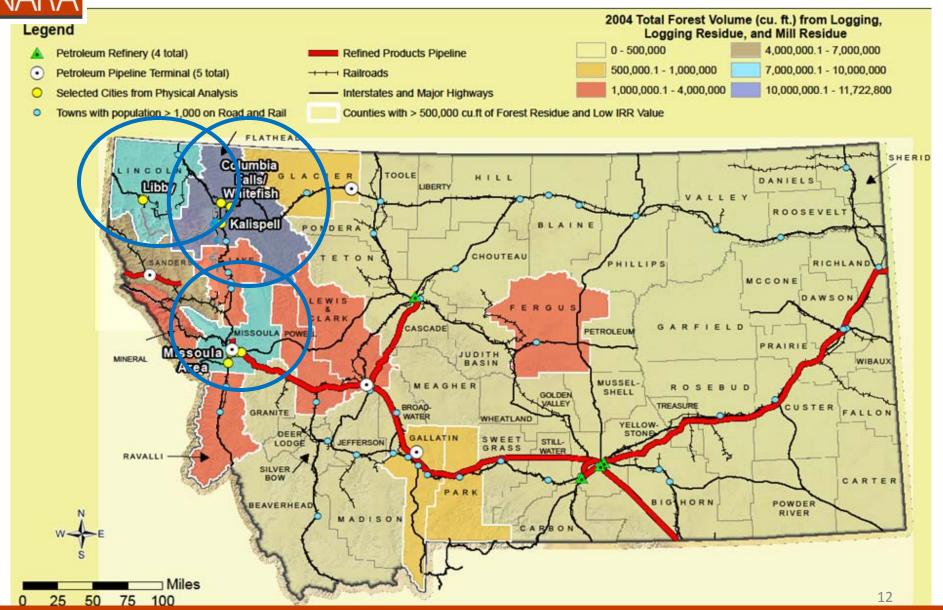


Figure 1. Scatter plot of IRR Score for Montana Counties (2000),

#### **High Forest Residues & Low IRR Values**



Smith et al. SWST International Convention @ Beijing, China Aug. 27-31, 2012

#### II. Analysis – Roadmap (Montana) NARA **Social Assets Evaluation** Assessment **Analysis of Study of** of the of the the Social **Physical** Relative Creative Assets Capital **Rurality** Capital

#### Identification of Possible NARA "Sites" (in Montana)

#### Creative Capital - Creative Vitality Index (CVI)

- Health of a region's creative economy
  - 1. The national score = 1.0
  - 2. Arts-related Participation : Employment = 3:2

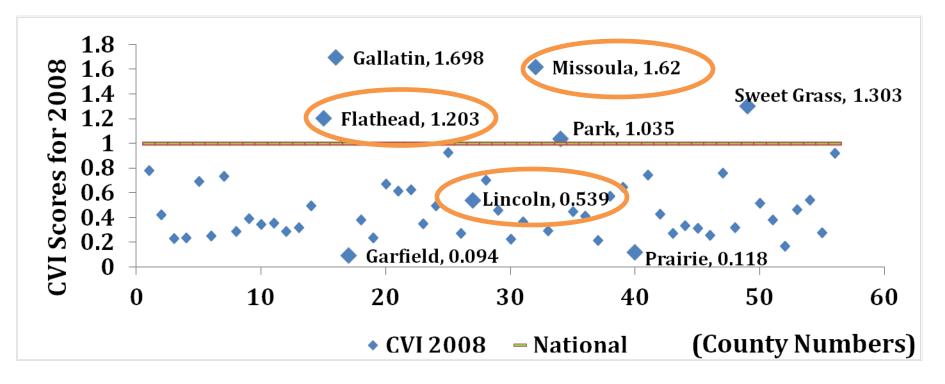
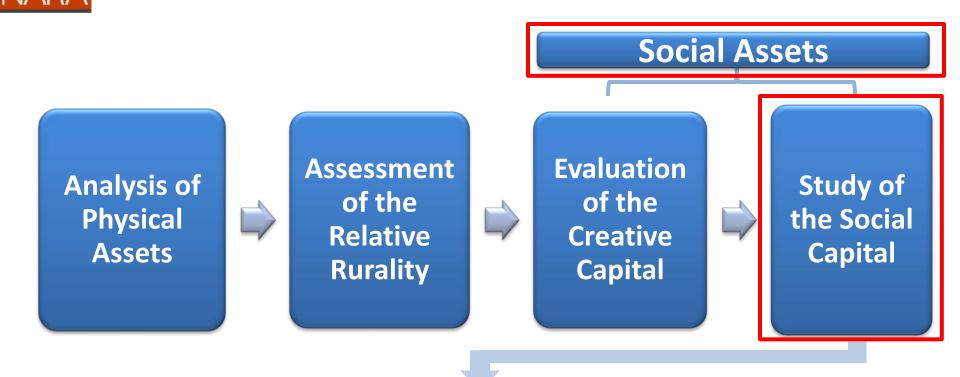


Figure 2. Scatter plot of CVI Score for Montana Counties (2008)

# NARA II. Analysis – Roadmap (Montana)



#### Identification of Possible NARA "Sites" (in Montana)

# Social Capital Measurements

- 1. Putnam Groups (PG) Score:
  - Predicts community-level adaptation to economic change
  - Measures presence of organizations that expand society's economic, social, & environmental wealth
- 2. Overall Social Capital (OSC) Score:
  - Composite measure of non-profit density, census survey & voter participation rates
  - Measures collective action to achieve shared goals – based heavily on "trust"

#### II. Analysis – Roadmap (Montana) NARA **Social Assets Evaluation** Assessment **Analysis of** Study of of the of the the Social **Physical Relative** Creative Capital Assets **Rurality** Capital **Identification of Possible NARA "Sites"** (in Montana)

# Table 1. Analysis of the Physical & Social Assets

NARA

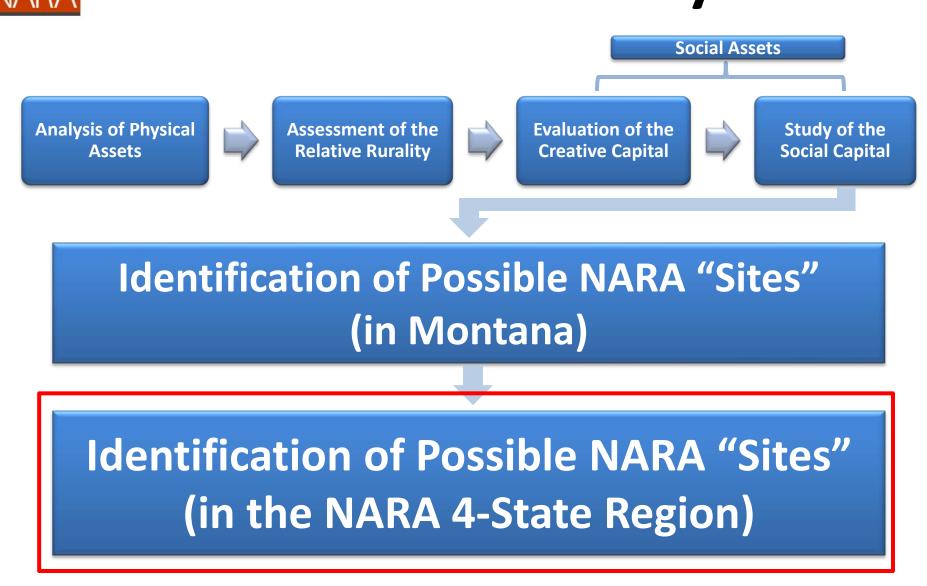
County	Forest Residue	IRR	CVI	Putnam	<b>Overall Social</b>
	(cu.ft.) 2004	2000	2008	Groups 2000	Capital 2009
Flathead	11,722,800	0.531	1.203	13.388	0.693
Lincoln	8,310,650	0.654	0.539	13.850	0.713
Missoula	8,280,130	0.316	1.620	9.345	1.533
Sanders	5,547,260	0.72	0.313	10.728	1.018
Powell	3,629,180	0.500	0.644	5.656	-0.084
Mineral	2,767,250	0.73	0.362	13.423	1.463
Lake	2,465,490	0.589	0.492	10.260	0.356
Granite	1,713,000	0.75	0.669	3.799	1.599
Powder River	1,681,880	0.88	0.571	20.953	4.511
Lewis and Clark	1,475,520	0.418	0.925	11.643	2.144
Fergus	1,428,070	0.598	0.496	17.603	1.665
Ravalli	1,158,790	0.614	0.743	9.261	0.654
Jefferson	964,112	0.74	0.622	2.025	0.565
Glacier	714,777	0.611	0.378	10.247	-0.472
Carter	693,280	0.91	0.251	13.307	2.541
Park	651,528	0.594	1.035	13.828	1.844
Gallatin	613,440	0.540	1.698	11.127	0.663
Rosebud	604,019	0.75	0.333	9.795	1.038
National Ave.			1.00	11.78	0.00

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# III. Future Activity





# Future Work

- Refine datasets & develp indices forest biomass to biofuels
- County-level view of the NARA 4-state region vs. US provides areas of high-low potential for subsequent validation
- Validated relationships may be applied to the greater NARA region & nation



# Thank you

#### Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance (NARA) Sustainability Measurement Team

#### **Acknowledgement:**

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# Social Assets - Social Capital

## Social Capital - contributes to:

- <u>Effectiveness of gov't</u> (Rice & Sumberg 1997)
- <u>Economic growth</u> (Fukuyama 2000; Halpern 1999)
- Low crime rate (Cote & Healy 2001; Halpern 1999)
- Improved health (Campbell 2001; Wilkinson 1996)
- <u>Reduced incidences of other social problems</u>