

Promoting Science, Dialogue, and Stewardship in Forest Biotechnology

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Science and dialogue are prerequisites for positive social, economic, and ecological change. However, even with the very best science, and the most thoughtful discussions, there is no guarantee that the world will see any benefits unless an integrated approach to deliver results is in place. The Institute of Forest Biotechnology (IFB) provides that necessary infrastructure. IFB works for societal, ecological, and economic benefits from appropriate uses of biotechnology in forestry worldwide. IFB facilitates sound science to fill knowledge gaps. We create dialogue and creative thought to analyze the benefits forest biotechnology promises. Most importantly, we work closely with our partners to make the most advantageous of forest biotechnology outcomes a reality for society. Our partners are a diverse set of stakeholders that include researchers and planners from academia, industry, government agencies, and non-profits. Highlights of platform projects at IFB:

- Science. Heritage Trees – using biotechnology to restore threatened or endangered tree species such as the American chestnut.
- Dialogue. Ecological Impacts – promoting dialogue between our stakeholders and agencies such as the US Forest Service and APHIS to bridge the gap between research needs and regulatory policies.
- Stewardship. Pine Genome Initiative – understanding the biology of pines and other conifers to improve global forest health, provide sustainable bioproduct feedstocks, and advance carbon sequestration research.