

Rules of Thumb for converting board-foot thresholds for FRPA applicability into other units.

These rules of thumb would be included in the BMP Implementation Handbook (“purple book”); the regulations will remain the same.

Region	Threshold in MBF	Approximate equivalents (1)				
		MCF (2)	Cunits	Cords (3)	Bone dry tons (4)	Green tons (5),(6)
Region II	10	3.5	35	40	White spruce – 40	White spruce - 55
					Birch – 55	Birch -85
					Aspen – 40	Aspen – 70
					Balsam poplar – 40	Balsam poplar -60
Region III	30	8	80	100	White spruce – 95	White spruce - 140
					Birch – 130	Birch -205
					Aspen – 95	Aspen – 175
					Balsam poplar – 100	Balsam poplar -150

(1) All equivalents are rounded to the nearest 0.5 unit for MCF, and to the nearest 5 units for all other conversions.

(2) MBF:MCF conversions are based on the average of Alaska Division of Forestry conversion factors for the areas within in region.

(3) For this chart, 1 cord = 85 cubic feet

(4) Dry weight figures by species are an average of the figures from Dobie & Wright, Conversion factors for the forest-products industry in Western Canada, 1975 and Alaska Division of Forestry, Buying Firewood, 1996

(5) Green weight figures for white spruce, birch, and aspen are from Sturgeon, Wood as a Fuel, 1979. Moisture content is roughly 30-40%.

(6) Green weight figure for balsam poplar estimated at 35% moisture content based on average oven-dry weight in (1)

Additional notes:

- Green weights vary widely depending on moisture content, and moisture content varies with species, season of harvest, and site conditions. If moisture content is known, product weight in green tons can be converted to the equivalent in dry tons as follows: divide the BDT threshold by (1 minus the moisture content expressed as a decimal). E.g., the Region II threshold for spruce at 25% moisture content in green tons = $40 / (1 - 0.25) = 53.3$ green tons.
- 1 Bone Dry Unit (BDU) = 1.2 Bone Dry Tons (BDT). To estimate the threshold in BDU, divide the threshold in BDT by 1.2. E.g., the spruce threshold for Region II in BDU = $40 / 1.2 = 33.3$ BDU