



KOOTENAI COMPLEX ACTIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AREA

Introduction:

This document provides information about the Kootenai Complex Active Forest Management Strategy Area (AFMSA). It was generated by the Forest Industry Research Program of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) at the University of Montana - Missoula. The mill survey data underlying these analyses were collected under joint venture agreements with the USDA Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis program at the Pacific Northwest Research Station (#21-JV-11261979-053) and Rocky Mountain Research Station (#20-JV-11221638-171). The landscape analyses and summary tables were developed under agreement #23-PA-11132400-368, and the residuals tables were developed under agreement #25-JV-11261936-106.

The data used in these analyses are the results of periodic censuses of each of the western states, as well as annual sample surveys of the same. Using data from both types of surveys allows us to provide time-series data, though it necessitates providing estimates as percentages rather than actual volume.

While BBER collects data at the mill level, mill-level data are confidential and will not be released.

Methods and Definitions:

The Kootenai Complex AFMSA covers a defined area that includes pieces of several counties. The combined area of the counties "touched" by this area constitutes its "Study Area" (for details, see fig. 1 and table 1). Defining a Study Area that covers entire counties is necessary to enable analysis, as the county is the smallest geographic area of mill survey data by BBER and FIA-TPO.

Further, BBER analysis of timber flow indicates that timber harvested within the Study Area is processed by facilities located both inside and outside this specific area. All counties that contain one or more facilities that process timber harvested within the Study Area constitute the "Timber Processing Area" (TPA) (for details, see fig. 1 and table 4).

In these tables, "capacity" refers to the maximum total volume of timber (excluding pulpwood and fuelwood) that existing timber processors could utilize annually, given firm market demand for products, sufficient raw material, and ordinary downtime for maintenance. Also known as "timber-processing capacity", it is a measure of mills' timber input capacity and is expressed in thousand board feet (MBF) Scribner and hundred cubic feet (CCF) per year. Input capacity is a useful measure when attempting to express the capacity of multiple types of mills in a common unit of measure. It is estimated from production (output) capacity information provided by facilities.

Estimates in these tables include the capacity of active facilities as well as idle (inactive) facilities with equipment still in place. Facilities that are permanently closed are not included. This analysis focuses on facilities that exclusively use timber in round form; this includes sawmills, veneer mills, and facilities processing timber into house logs/log homes, posts, small poles, utility poles, cedar products (e.g., shakes and shingles), and log furniture. Facilities (e.g., pulp mills, wood pellet manufacturers, and biomass energy facilities) that use a mix of roundwood and non-roundwood inputs (i.e., mill residuals such as chips, sawdust, shavings, and bark) are not included in the capacity analysis because the combination of roundwood and non-roundwood inputs can vary widely from year to year, potentially over- or under-estimating capacity and use of roundwood by substantial margins.

“Capability” refers to the volume of trees of a certain size class (measured as diameter at breast height, or dbh) that existing timber processors can economically process annually. The three dbh classes are <7”, 7” to 9.9”, and ≥10”. Some facilities are designed to operate using only trees of a given size class (e.g., veneer/ plywood plants typically only use trees ≥10” dbh, and post manufacturers primarily use trees <10” dbh). The capability of these facilities is readily classified into just one size class. Many facilities can use timber from more than one size class.

“Use” refers to the volume of timber, both in total and by tree dbh class, that facilities are currently using.

Kootenai Complex AFMSA

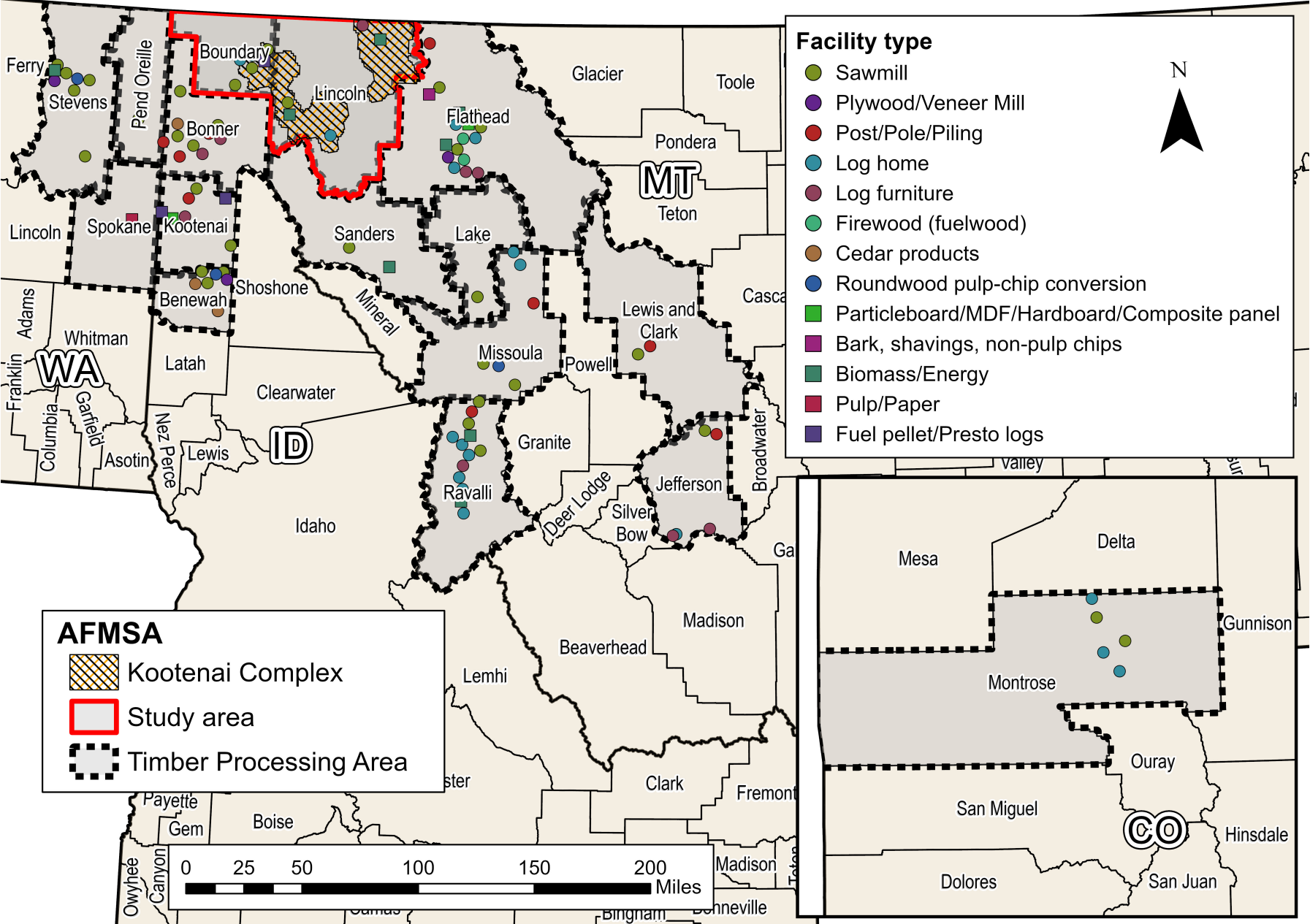


Figure 1. Kootenai Complex landscape, Study Area, Timber Processing Area, and facility locations

KOOTENAI COMPLEX STUDY AREA COUNTIES

Table 1. Kootenai Complex Study Area counties

County	State
Boundary	ID
Lincoln	MT

KOOTENAI COMPLEX STUDY AREA HARVEST

Table 2. Timber harvest from Kootenai Complex Study Area counties (all ownerships), by percentage distribution by species (2020-2023)

Species group	2020	2021	2022	2023
Douglas-fir	36%	34%	32%	35%
Western larch	14%	14%	13%	13%
Other firs	12%	13%	7%	14%
Lodgepole pine	12%	12%	13%	11%
Western redcedar	10%	11%	12%	10%
Western hemlock	6%	7%	11%	6%
Engelmann spruce	5%	3%	4%	3%
Ponderosa pine	4%	3%	7%	6%
Other pines	1%	3%	1%	1%
All species	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 3. Percentage of timber harvest from national forest lands within the Kootenai Complex Study Area, by timber product type (2020-2023)

Timber product type	-----Percentage from national forests-----			
	2020	2021	2022	2023
House log	65%	100%	86%	5%
Post/pole	51%	71%	56%	0%
Sawlog	46%	54%	48%	34%
Veneer log	31%	31%	24%	72%
Cedar log	0%	0%	0%	n/a
Furniture logs	0%	0%	100%	100%
Pilings/utility poles	0%	n/a	n/a	0%
Fiber log	n/a	96%	37%	62%
Pulpwood log	n/a	n/a	100%	100%
Firewood	n/a	n/a	100%	n/a
Study Area total	42%	50%	43%	38%

Note: "n/a" indicates that no timber of this product type was harvested within the Study Area.

KOOTENAI COMPLEX TIMBER-PROCESSING AREA COUNTIES

Table 4. Kootenai Complex Timber-Processing Area (TPA) counties

County	State
Montrose	CO
Benewah	ID
Bonner	ID
Boundary	ID
Kootenai	ID
Flathead	MT
Jefferson	MT
Lake	MT
Lewis & Clark	MT
Lincoln	MT
Missoula	MT
Ravalli	MT
Sanders	MT
Pend Oreille	WA
Spokane	WA
Stevens	WA

KOOTENAI COMPLEX TIMBER-PROCESSING AREA FACILITIES LIST

Table 5. Timber-processing facilities within the Kootenai Complex TPA (2025)

Facility name	Status	Facility type	State	County	Input size class	Included in capacity analysis
Colorado Wood Company Inc.	New	sawmill	CO	Montrose	No Roundwood	no
Custom Log Crafting	Active	log home	CO	Montrose	<250 MCF	yes
Frontier Log Homes (Colorado)	Active	log home	CO	Montrose	<250 MCF	yes
JAMCo Woodworks	New	log home	CO	Montrose	<250 MCF	yes
Montrose Forest Products, LLC.	Active	sawmill	CO	Montrose	5000 MCF or more	yes
American Cedar	Active	cedar products	ID	Benewah	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
DLM Shake	Active	cedar products	ID	Benewah	<250 MCF	yes
PotlatchDeltic--St Maries (lumber)	Active	sawmill	ID	Benewah	5000 MCF or more	yes
PotlatchDeltic--St. Maries (plywood)	Active	plywood/Veneer Mill	ID	Benewah	5000 MCF or more	yes
Roland Timber Company	Inactive	sawmill	ID	Benewah	<250 MCF	yes
Stimson Lumber Company (St. Maries)	Active	sawmill	ID	Benewah	5000 MCF or more	yes
Swan Lake Fiber	Active	roundwood pulp-chip conversion	ID	Benewah	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Barretts Busy B	Active	cedar products	ID	Bonner	<250 MCF	yes
Bell Lumber & Pole - Oldtown	Active	post/pole/piling	ID	Bonner	250 TO 499 MCF	yes
Idaho Forest Group - Laclede	Active	sawmill	ID	Bonner	5000 MCF or more	yes
Johns Rough Cut	Active	log furniture	ID	Bonner	<250 MCF	yes
Misty Mountain Furniture	Active	log furniture	ID	Bonner	<250 MCF	yes
Panhandle Forest Products	Active	post/pole/piling	ID	Bonner	250 TO 499 MCF	yes
Priest Lake Lumber Company, Inc.	Inactive	sawmill	ID	Bonner	<250 MCF	yes
Specialty Beams	Active	sawmill	ID	Bonner	<250 MCF	yes
Stella Jones - McFarland Cascade Sandpoint	Active	post/pole/piling	ID	Bonner	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Stimson Lumber Company (Priest River)	Active	sawmill	ID	Bonner	5000 MCF or more	yes
Alta Forest Products LLC	Active	sawmill	ID	Boundary	5000 MCF or more	yes
Caribou Creek Log & Timber	Active	log home	ID	Boundary	<250 MCF	yes
Idaho Forest Group - Moyie Springs	Active	sawmill	ID	Boundary	5000 MCF or more	yes
North Idaho Energy Logs, Inc.	Active	fuel pellet/presto logs	ID	Boundary	No Roundwood	no
Structures Unlimited, Inc.	Inactive	log home	ID	Boundary	<250 MCF	yes
Thick 'N' Thin Beams and Lumber	Active	sawmill	ID	Boundary	<250 MCF	yes
Idaho Forest Group - Chilco	Active	sawmill	ID	Kootenai	5000 MCF or more	yes
Lignetics, Inc.	Active	fuel pellet/presto logs	ID	Kootenai	No Roundwood	no
North Idaho Energy Logs, Inc	Active	fuel pellet/presto logs	ID	Kootenai	No Roundwood	no
North Idaho Log Furniture Co.	Active	log furniture	ID	Kootenai	<250 MCF	yes
North Idaho Post and Pole	Active	post/pole/piling	ID	Kootenai	<250 MCF	yes
Plummer Forest Products	Active	particleboard/MDF/hardboard/composite panel	ID	Kootenai	No Roundwood	no
Whiteman Lumber Company, Inc.	Active	sawmill	ID	Kootenai	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
Conkle's Custom Cuts	Active	sawmill	MT	Flathead	<250 MCF	yes
F H Stoltze Land & Lumber Co	Active	sawmill	MT	Flathead	5000 MCF or more	yes
F.H. Stoltze-co-gen facility	Active	biomass/energy	MT	Flathead	No Roundwood	no

Table 5. Timber-processing facilities within the Kootenai Complex TPA (2025), continued

Facility name	Status	Facility type	State	County	Input size class	Included in capacity analysis
Frontier Log Furniture	Active	log furniture	MT	Flathead	<250 MCF	yes
Glacier Gold, LLC	Active	bark, shavings, non-pulp chips	MT	Flathead	No Roundwood	no
Glacier High School	Inactive	biomass/energy	MT	Flathead	No Roundwood	no
Glacier Log Mill / Lazarus Log Homes	Active	log home	MT	Flathead	<250 MCF	yes
Kalispell Montana Log Homes, Inc.	Active	log home	MT	Flathead	<250 MCF	yes
Montana Timberline Firewood Co.	Active	firewood (fuelwood)	MT	Flathead	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
Old Style Log Works, Inc.	Active	log home	MT	Flathead	<250 MCF	yes
RBM Logging & Lumber	Active	sawmill	MT	Flathead	250 TO 499 MCF	yes
Simonson's Log Furniture	Active	log furniture	MT	Flathead	<250 MCF	yes
Stillwater Post & Pole	Active	post/pole/piling	MT	Flathead	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
Weyerhaeuser - Columbia Falls MDF	Active	particleboard/MDF/hardboard/composite panel	MT	Flathead	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Weyerhaeuser Kalispell Lumber	Active	sawmill	MT	Flathead	5000 MCF or more	yes
Weyerhaeuser Kalispell Plywood	Active	plywood/Veneer Mill	MT	Flathead	5000 MCF or more	yes
Wild Montana Wood	Active	firewood (fuelwood)	MT	Flathead	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
Huckaba Custom Desings	Active	log furniture	MT	Jefferson	<250 MCF	yes
Marks Lumber	Active	sawmill	MT	Jefferson	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
Marks-Miller Post & Pole Inc	Active	post/pole/piling	MT	Jefferson	<250 MCF	yes
Montana Mobile Cabin	Active	log home	MT	Jefferson	<250 MCF	yes
Wilbur's Custom Woodworks	Active	log furniture	MT	Jefferson	<250 MCF	yes
Dupuis Lumber	Active	sawmill	MT	Lake	<250 MCF	yes
Hunts Timber	Active	sawmill	MT	Lake	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Bouma Post Yard	Active	post/pole/piling	MT	Lewis and Clark	250 TO 499 MCF	yes
L & L Custom Sawing	Active	sawmill	MT	Lewis and Clark	<250 MCF	yes
Chapel Cedar	Active	sawmill	MT	Lincoln	500 TO 999 MCF	yes
Eureka Public Schools	Inactive	biomass/energy	MT	Lincoln	No Roundwood	no
Meadowlark Log Homes	Active	log home	MT	Lincoln	<250 MCF	yes
Montana Woodworks	Active	log furniture	MT	Lincoln	<250 MCF	yes
Troy Public Schools	Active	biomass/energy	MT	Lincoln	No Roundwood	no
Advantage Milling	Active	sawmill	MT	Missoula	<250 MCF	yes
Bad Goat	Active	sawmill	MT	Missoula	<250 MCF	yes
Nordique Systems Log Homes	Active	log home	MT	Missoula	<250 MCF	yes
Roundwood West Corporation	Active	post/pole/piling	MT	Missoula	<250 MCF	yes
The Rustics Of Montana	Active	log home	MT	Missoula	<250 MCF	yes
Willis Enterprises, Inc.-Bonner Chip Plant	Active	roundwood pulp-chip conversion	MT	Missoula	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Bearly Making It	Active	log furniture	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Darby Public Schools	Active	biomass/energy	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Finlay Lumber	Active	sawmill	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Frontier Posts, LLC	Active	post/pole/piling	MT	Ravalli	250 TO 499 MCF	yes

Table 5. Timber-processing facilities within the Kootenai Complex TPA (2025), continued

Facility name	Status	Facility type	State	County	Input size class	Included in capacity analysis
Master Log Homes	Active	log home	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Montana Custom Log Homes Inc	Active	log home	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Montana Timber Structures	Active	log home	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
R & S Milling	Active	sawmill	MT	Ravalli	250 TO 499 MCF	yes
Rocky Mountain Log Homes	Active	log home	MT	Ravalli	250 TO 499 MCF	yes
Rocky Mountain Log Homes - Victor	Active	log home	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Small Diameter Logs Company	Active	log home	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Valley Board & Beam	Active	sawmill	MT	Ravalli	<250 MCF	yes
Victor Public Schools	Inactive	biomass/energy	MT	Ravalli	No Roundwood	no
Thompson River Lumber Co	Active	sawmill	MT	Sanders	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Vaagen Bros. – Usk sawmill	Active	sawmill	WA	Pend Oreille	5000 MCF or more	yes
Inland Empire Paper Co.	Active	pulp/paper	WA	Spokane	No Roundwood	no
Boise Cascade - Arden Lumber Mill	Active	sawmill	WA	Stevens	5000 MCF or more	yes
Boise Cascade - Kettle Falls lumber	Active	sawmill	WA	Stevens	5000 MCF or more	yes
Boise Cascade - Kettle Falls Plywood	Active	plywood/Veneer Mill	WA	Stevens	5000 MCF or more	yes
Kettle Falls Generating Station	Active	biomass/energy	WA	Stevens	No Roundwood	no
Skagit River - Springdale	New	sawmill	WA	Stevens	No Roundwood	no
Vaagen Bros. – Colville chipping	Active	roundwood pulp-chip conversion	WA	Stevens	1000 TO 4999 MCF	yes
Vaagen Bros. – Colville sawmill	Active	sawmill	WA	Stevens	5000 MCF or more	yes
WEBLEY LUMBER CO	Active	sawmill	WA	Stevens	No Roundwood	no

TIMBER RECEIVED BY TIMBER-PROCESSING FACILITIES IN THE KOOTENAI COMPLEX TIMBER-PROCESSING AREA

Table 6. Timber received by facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, percentage distribution by species (2020-2023)

Species group	2020	2021	2022	2023
Douglas-fir	41%	44%	40%	36%
Grand fir	19%	17%	19%	13%
Ponderosa pine	8%	8%	8%	14%
Western larch	7%	7%	8%	9%
Lodgepole pine	7%	7%	8%	6%
Cedar	6%	6%	6%	7%
Engelmann spruce	6%	5%	5%	5%
Western hemlock	4%	3%	4%	8%
Other firs	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other pines	0%	1%	1%	1%
All species	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 7. Percentage of timber from national forests received by facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, by timber product group (2020-2023)

Timber product type	-----Percentage from national forests-----			
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Firewood	61%	59%	84%	87%
Post/pole	54%	85%	66%	62%
House log	35%	36%	47%	19%
Pulpwood log	31%	24%	29%	15%
Furniture log	30%	19%	93%	96%
Sawlog	21%	24%	24%	28%
Veneer log	16%	13%	11%	14%
Cedar log	0%	0%	0%	0%
Energywood log	0%	51%	100%	100%
Piling/utility pole	0%	0%	0%	0%
Fiber log	n/a	93%	31%	60%
Total	20%	22%	22%	26%

**TIMBER-PROCESSING CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY OF TIMBER-PROCESSING FACILITIES WITHIN THE KOOTENAI COMPLEX
TIMBER-PROCESSING AREA**

Table 8. Timber-processing capacity and capability by tree dbh class of facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, by county or county group (2020, 2022, 2023)

Timber Processing Area	-----Thousand board feet, Scribner (MBF)-----			-----Hundred cubic feet (CCF)-----		
	<7 in. dbh	7 - 9.9 in. dbh	≥10 in. dbh	<7 in. dbh	7 - 9.9 in. dbh	≥10 in. dbh
Colorado	-	39,165	73,177	-	83,276	155,568
Montrose	-	39,165	73,177	-	83,276	155,568
Idaho	40,836	247,500	365,947	101,907	556,990	769,253
Benewah	8,350	57,291	139,993	28,797	146,576	283,533
Bonner	5,051	67,211	98,169	12,424	147,005	212,998
Boundary	13,274	60,245	60,685	28,326	128,578	129,530
Kootenai	14,161	62,753	67,100	32,360	134,831	143,192
Montana	24,877	86,445	148,214	87,640	258,606	358,079
Flathead	7,925	49,057	117,058	21,986	126,118	270,051
Jefferson & Lewis and Clark	1,843	1,674	2,640	6,616	5,414	6,574
Lake & Sanders	2,322	9,473	12,678	6,250	23,965	31,775
Missoula	10,684	22,929	8,757	45,178	97,092	36,213
Ravalli	2,104	3,311	7,081	7,610	6,018	13,465
Washington	13,790	97,316	249,503	61,016	288,919	593,758
Pend Oreille & Stevens	13,790	97,316	249,503	61,016	288,919	593,758
Total	79,502	470,425	836,840	250,563	1,187,792	1,876,658

Table 9. Timber-processing capacity and capability by tree dbh class of facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, by timber product type (2020, 2022, 2023)

Timber product type	-----Thousand board feet, Scribner (MBF)-----			-----Hundred cubic feet (CCF)-----		
	<7 in. dbh	7 - 9.9 in. dbh	≥10 in. dbh	<7 in. dbh	7 - 9.9 in. dbh	≥10 in. dbh
Saw log	43,791	386,094	586,945	96,301	854,947	1,306,553
Chipping log	28,031	61,669	22,425	124,124	273,073	99,299
Post, poles or piling log	6,860	12,766	11,333	27,377	34,218	27,178
Firewood	651	5,948	93	1,972	18,076	330
Furniture log	169	56	-	789	263	-
Veneer log	-	-	204,997	-	-	418,458
House log	-	3,727	7,904	-	6,673	14,533
Cedar log	-	165	3,144	-	542	10,307
Total	79,502	470,425	836,840	250,563	1,187,792	1,876,658

Table 10. Total timber-processing capacity, timber consumption, and capacity utilization of facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, by dbh class (2020, 2022, 2023)

Tree dbh	----Capacity to process timber-----		-----Timber consumption-----		Capacity utilization
	Thousand board feet, Scribner (MBF)	Hundred cubic feet (CCF)	Thousand board feet, Scribner (MBF)	Hundred cubic feet (CCF)	
<7 in.	79,502	250,563	15,986	64,221	26%
7 - 9.9 in.	470,425	1,187,792	157,317	403,544	34%
≥10 in.	836,840	1,876,658	845,586	1,865,788	99%
Total	1,386,768	3,315,013	1,018,889	2,333,553	70%

Table 11. Unused timber-processing capacity of facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, by county or county group (2020, 2022, 2023)

Timber Processing Area	Thousand board feet, Scribner (MBF)	Hundred cubic feet (CCF)
Colorado	69,455	147,515
Montrose	69,455	147,515
Idaho	102,036	257,065
Benewah	23,575	83,815
Bonner	20,029	46,155
Boundary	34,769	74,231
Kootenai	23,664	52,863
Montana	101,153	296,167
Flathead	59,168	139,251
Jefferson & Lewis and Clark	1,293	3,536
Lake & Sanders	2,937	7,506
Missoula	32,176	135,663
Ravalli	5,579	10,212
Washington	95,235	280,712
Pend Oreille & Stevens	95,235	280,712
Total	367,879	981,460

Table 12. Unused timber-processing capacity of facilities in the Kootenai Complex TPA, by timber product type (2020, 2021)

Timber product type	Thousand board feet, Scribner (MBF)	Hundred cubic feet (CCF)
Saw log	248,809	556,030
Chipping log	72,151	319,547
Veneer log	26,411	55,046
Post, poles or piling log	11,173	30,012
House log	6,723	12,417
Firewood	1,496	4,534
Cedar log	989	3,243
Furniture log	127	630
Total	367,879	981,460

RESIDUALS GENERATED BY TIMBER-PROCESSING FACILITIES IN THE KOOTENAI COMPLEX TIMBER-PROCESSING AREA

Table 13. Mill residuals generated by timber-processing facilities within the Kootenai Complex TPA (2020, 2022, 2023)

	BDUs ^a	Percent of total volume
Utilized residuals volume	1,624,757	99.95%
Unutilized residuals volume	807	0.05%
Total volume generated	1,625,564	100.00%

^a One bone dry unit (BDU) = 2,400 pounds of oven-dry wood or bark.

Table 14. Mill residuals generated by timber-processing facilities within the Kootenai Complex TPA, by type of residual (2020, 2022, 2023)

Type of residual	BDUs ^a	Percent of total volume
Coarse ^b	864,630	53%
Fine ^c	410,688	25%
Bark	350,260	22%
Total, all residual types	1,625,579	100%

^a One bone dry unit (BDU) = 2,400 pounds of oven-dry wood or bark.

^b Includes slabs, edgings, and trimmings from lumber manufacturing; log ends; pieces of veneer not suitable for manufacturing plywood; and plywood peeler cores not sawn into lumber.

^c Includes sawdust, peelings and shavings.

Table 15. Mill residuals generated by timber-processing facilities within the Kootenai Complex TPA, by type of utilization (2020, 2022, 2023)

Type of utilization	BDUs ^a	Percent of total volume
Fiber ^b	996,696	61%
Fuel ^c	415,325	26%
Sold as raw material for other products	131,880	8%
Mulch/soil additives	60,915	4%
Animal bedding	8,735	1%
Decorative landscaping	11,203	1%
Used on-site for other products	2	0%
Unused	1,986	0%
Total, all types of utilization	1,626,743	100%

^a One bone dry unit (BDU) = 2,400 pounds of oven-dry wood or bark.

^b Includes pulp, composite panels, and MDF.

^c Includes firewood, biomass, hogfuel, and pellets.