

*Species At Risk* in Canadian wildlife poison use zones:

Long-Tailed weasel – *Mustela frenata*

*Federal Status: ? /Provincial Status: Alberta: SENSITIVE (2015) Saskatchewan: N/A*



*Figure 1 Long-tailed Weasel photo*

Source: Government of Alberta. 2017. Alberta Wild Species General Status Listing - 2015. 24pp.

<http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/species-at-risk/albertas-species-at-risk-strategy/general-status-of-alberta-wild-species/documents/SAR-2015WildSpeciesGeneralStatusList-Mar2017.pdf> Accessed January 5, 2018

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*Species considered uncommon to rare. Population status is unknown, and trends in population and distribution uncertain. Current forestry practices may reduce availability of preferred habitat. Fisher harvest has declined since 1985.*

**Poisoning**

Between 2005 – 2017, there were 3 fisher deaths recorded from strychnine in the Alberta’s Little Smoky caribou range. Each of these were reported as non-target deaths<sup>1,2</sup>. There is no way of knowing if more fishers within the treatment area wandered off before succumbing to death by strychnine or were buried by snow and never retrieved.

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<sup>1</sup> Alberta Environment and Parks. 2017. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Request E17-G-1191

<sup>2</sup> Hervieux, D., M. Hebblewhite, D. Stepnisky, M. Bacon, and S. Boutin. 2014. Managing wolves (*Canis lupus*) to recover threatened woodland caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) in Alberta. *Canadian Journal of Zoology*. 92:1029 - 1037 [supplementary data]