

Species At Risk in Canadian wildlife poison use zones:

Fisher – *Martes pennant*

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



Figure 1 Fisher photo courtesy Sadie Parr

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

Pg. 22

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 Alberta’s Little Smoky caribou range. Each of these were reported as non-target deaths^{1,2}. 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.

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

² 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]