

Operator Quick Reference Card

FISHER PILE SPECIFICATIONS



BC FISHER
HABITAT
WORKING GROUP

Silviculture
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Program

IDEAL fisher piles look like...

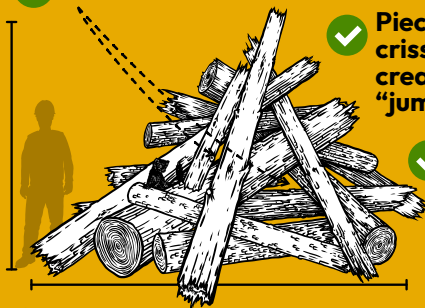
- ✓ 1/3 (or more) of pile pieces are big pieces (>20cm diameter)



Fishers are mid-sized, long and slender forest carnivores - about the size of a house cat.

- ✓ Windows!

- ✓ Height minimum 2m tall



- ✓ Pieces are criss-crossed creating a "jumble"

- ✓ No fines, debris, moss, soil, needles, etc.! Fines are pieces <10cm diameter

- ✓ Footprint minimum 3m x 5m

POOR fisher piles look like...



Too flat/small



Too many fines



Too stacked

Pile decomposes faster

Fills up habitat spaces

Can't access the core

More about Fishers

Fisher piles provide important ground resting habitat for fishers. In the winter, the piles are particularly important to create open spaces underneath the snow to **help shelter fishers from the cold**. Large pieces of coarse woody debris - especially when jumbled into a pile - **provide warm spaces for fishers to rest**.

Fisher piles also **provide places to hide from larger predators**. Fishers don't feel safe crossing openings wider than 100 meters. Fisher piles that connect retained trees within a cut block to the surrounding forest will help them move through harvested areas safer and sooner.



Illustrations by
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