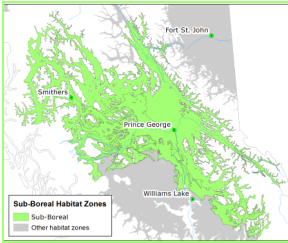


Fisher Habitat: Sub-Boreal Forest*

Structure Identification



Fishers need forests for 4 different life activities: **denning**, **resting**, **foraging**, and **movement**.

These field notes provide a quick reference to identify important structures for fisher denning and resting habitat.



General Retention Guidelines:

Big and Ugly: Select large diameter trees with some type of defect.

Defect: Retain trees and snags with rot, disease, or damage.



For more information on fishers and fisher habitat visit:

www.BCfisherhabitat.ca

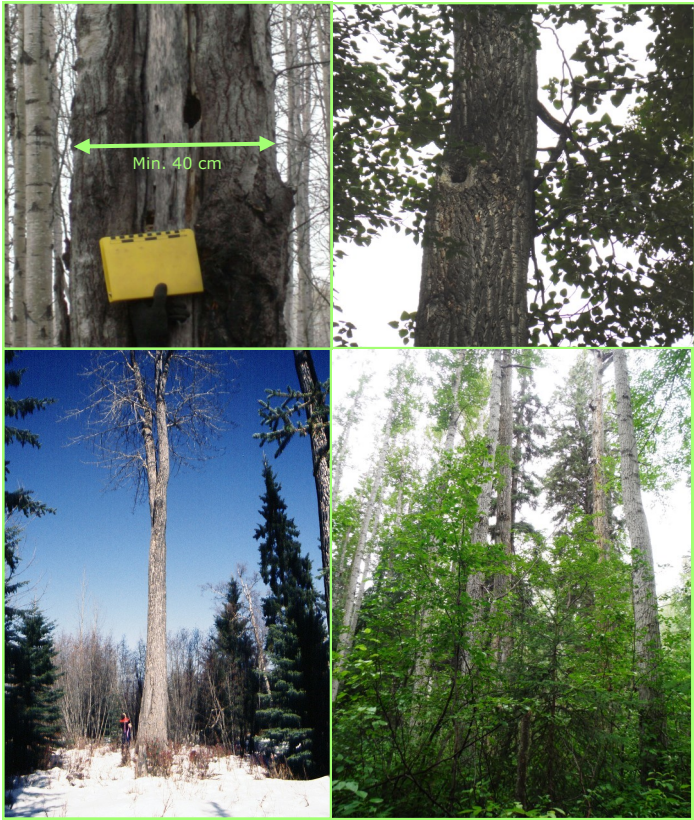
*The guidance in this document is intended to inform fisher habitat managers in B.C., and is not to be interpreted as direction nor is it legally binding."

Denning Habitat: Fisher are the largest animal in B.C. that requires a tree cavity for keeping babies safe. This is why den trees are the largest examples of each tree species they use.



Best Trees to Retain for Denning

- Cottonwood** ≥ 90 cm dbh
- Entrance hole 5–10 cm wide by 7–15 cm tall
 - Trees with cavities where bole diameter $\geq \sim 40$ cm at entrance hole



Resting Habitat (Cavity and Rust Broom Sites) provide fishers with protection from poor weather and predators.

Best Trees to Retain for Resting	Cottonwood ≥77 cm dbh Aspen ≥59 cm dbh Douglas-fir ≥97 cm dbh Hybrid spruce ≥39 cm dbh • Trees with cavities where bole diameter ≥~40 cm at entrance hole, OR • Trees with rust brooms ≥~40 cm diameter to provide a platform for fishers
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Fisher Habitat Guidelines: Sub-Boreal Habitat Zone—Resting Habitat

Resting Habitat (CWD): CWD provides rest sites for fishers and their prey, especially in winter.



Man-made CWD piles:

- Creating piles through-out cutblocks will help create rest sites in the regenerating stand.
- Pieces should not be stacked neatly, but be in a jumbled pile to create spaces for fishers.

Single Piece CWD	• ≥ 35 cm diameter by ≥ 7 m in length • Elevated 25-50 cm above ground
Man-made CWD Piles	• Pile dimensions ≥ 3 m wide by 5 m long by 2 m high • CWD piles should have $\geq 30\%$ pieces ≥ 20 cm diameter ≥ 3 m long



The Fisher Habitat Working Group recognizes the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation and anglers, hunters, trappers and guides who contribute to the Trust, for making a significant financial contribution to support the British Columbia Fisher Habitat and Forestry Web Module. Without such support, this project would not have been possible.



The Fisher Habitat Working Group gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program for its contribution to the British Columbia Fisher Habitat and Forestry Web Module.

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