

Reindeer Body Condition Scoring System (BCS)

Greg L. Finstad
Reindeer Research Program, UAF

Score	Description	Pelvis fat	Ribs and spine	Rump area
1	Emaciated	No fat cover	Prominent ribs, sharp spine	Concave
2	Lean	Minimal fat cover	Prominent spine, but appear rounded rather than sharp. Ribs discernible.	Slightly concave
3	Prime	Ideal fat cover	Spine not readily distinguished Ribs scarcely discernible	Flat
4	Fat	Fat, Pelvis rounded, (some trimming necessary)	Spine covered by fat. Ribs not discernible	Rounded
5	Overfat	Pelvis concealed by fat overfat (excessive trimming required)	Spine and ribs hard to palpate	Very convex, almost square