

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 3:59 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: fur farm renewal

Categories: Blue Category

Breeding animals is the term I use – not breeding pairs (the ratio is approx. 1 male to 5 females)

s.13

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 9:40 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: AHA regs Q & A for minister

Categories: Red Category, recurring mtg

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 9:09 AM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: AHA regs Q & A for minister

s.13

Angela,
Fur Farm Reg

Working on this, we asked for plans that would be approved so it covers a lot of detail under the discretion of the CVO which can be changed as anything is updated.

Additionally we were guided by recommendations to not make large changes, or changes that would create controversy, on the fur farm I had thought we had pushed a bit past that but that it was important and that the industry would not complain at the limit we set.

s.13

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 8:11 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: AHA regs Q & A for minister

s.13

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2014 5:31 PM

To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: AHA regs Q & A for minister

Hi Jane,

We just finished briefing the minister on the six new AHA regs (a cast of many)! Two things came up during the briefing with the minister on the AHA regs.

Fur Farm Regulation.

s.13

Game Farm Regulation

s.13

Thanks Jane. Crossing my fingers that they come into force soon!

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2014 9:54 AM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Code of Practice Mink Farming

Categories: Red Category

The following should be added to the Fur Farm Regulation

s.12,s.13

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2014 8:49 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Code of Practice Mink Farming

Can you take into account Jane's comments and then send me something that I could include in the drafting instructions?

Linda Bates, BSc MBA PMP
Senior Manager, Legislation Section
Science and Policy Division
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-2357

E mail: linda.bates@gov.bc.ca

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From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 3, 2014 5:45 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Code of Practice Mink Farming

- **Jane Pritchard | Chief Veterinary Officer and Director Plant and Animal Health Branch | B.C**
Ministry of Agriculture | Abbotsford | Phone: 604-556-3013

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 3, 2014 4:11 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: Code of Practice Mink Farming

Here is the link to the Code of Practice. https://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/mink_code_of_practice.pdf

We can add and update some of the requirements in the current regulation. I have cut and pasted a couple sections that I think are relevant with the yellow highlighted section being the most pertinent.

s.13

Angela von Sacken, Senior Legislative Analyst
Corporate Governance, Policy & Legislation Branch
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 250 356-0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 5:06 PM
To: Collins, Christine D AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: fur Farm question

Christine FYI

Please delete this sentence from the fur farm renewal form.

Total Numbers of Animals on Farm (include animals on shares or boarded for others) _____

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur Farm question

I don't think it's relevant, and will take it off – those forms are very old

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Ministry of Agriculture
Livestock Health Management and Regulatory Unit
1767 Angus Campbell Rd | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
Toll: 1-877-877-2474 | Tel: (604) 556-3093 Fax: (604) 556-3015



From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 3:05 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur Farm question

Thanks Lynette.

The regulation requires that at renewal time you state the number and species by sex of animal intended to be kept on fur farm section 3(4). So your form will largely stay the same.

There is a statement under the table that says

Total Numbers of Animals on Farm (include animals on shares or boarded for others) _____

What is meant by this? Why would anyone be boarding or sharing fur farm animals?

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 2:37 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX

Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur Farm question

This is the fur farm renewal – which basically looks like the application form. I think we should just change the wording to # of breeders, male/females OR total animals, whatever Jane thinks we should be recording. When they record 10,000 animals, it seems like they are recording total number expected

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Ministry of Agriculture
Livestock Health Management and Regulatory Unit
1767 Angus Campbell Rd | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
Toll: 1-877-877-2474 | Tel: (604) 556-3093 Fax: (604) 556-3015



From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 2:16 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: fur Farm question

Hi Lynette

Is there an annual inventory form that fur farmers can pull off the web and submit to you. I have looked on the web and I can't find any record keeping forms that apply to fur farmers. Under the new AHA we want to standardize the look and content of forms as much as we can.

Do fur farm license renewals work the same way as game farm license renewals? Do you send the old license document out at the end of February and ask them to review and make any changes?

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 8:23 AM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Cc: Fradley, Adria N FLNR:EX; Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: FW:s.13

Categories: Blue Category

Hi Jessie-
s.13

Let me know

Cheers
Linda

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 12:34 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: FW:s.13

Linda, FYI

FLNRO is not making any changes in the immediate to their regulations regarding wildlife.

From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2015 8:23 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.13

Hi Angela,
s.13

In the meantime, thank you very much for your earlier comments on the proposed amendments!

Jessie

Jessie Givner

Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2015 12:47 PM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Subject: FW:s.13

Hi Jessie,

Can you please give me an update on this project s.13

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 3:10 PM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.13

Angela von Sacken will respond to your inquiry. It may be another day or two before we get back to you.

Cheers

Linda

Linda Bates, BSc MBA PMP
Senior Manager, Legislation Section
Science and Policy Division
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-2357

E mail: linda.bates@gov.bc.ca

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From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:49 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: s.13

Hi Linda,

I am just following up on these proposed s.14
s.14

Many thanks,

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2014 3:35 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: s.13

Hi Linda,

s.13

Could you please let me know whether your program has any comments, questions, or concerns about the proposed amendments on page 10 and 11 of these instructions?

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 250 356-6989 if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss this further.

Thank you,

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 9:26 AM
To: Lloyd, Penny FLNR:EX
Cc: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX; Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: FW s.13

Categories: Blue Category

Hi Penny,
s.13

Thanks,

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 9:05 AM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Cc: Fradley, Adria N FLNR:EX; Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.13

Hi Jessie – I appreciate that the short timelines for Committees are creating a bit of a workload for everyone – ourselves included !

If there are staff available that would be willing to join a small team to work on this, please let me know.

We have a legal co-op starting Monday that could begin to set out what we might think about changing, assuming there are no significant policy issues with any of what's contemplated.

If there are any staff not engaged on your statutory amendments that could assist, we would appreciate hearing from them.

Cheers !
Linda

From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 9:00 AM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX

Cc: Fradley, Adria N FLNR:EX; Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.13

Hi Linda,

s.13

Thank you!

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 8:23 AM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Cc: Fradley, Adria N FLNR:EX; Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: s.13

Hi Jessie-
s.13

Let me know

Cheers
Linda

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 12:34 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: FW:s.13

Linda, FYI

FLNRO is not making any changes in the immediate to their regulations regarding wildlife.

From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2015 8:23 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.13

Hi Angela,

s.13

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2015 12:47 PM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Subject: FW:s.13

Hi Jessie,

Can you please give me an update on this project. s.13

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 3:10 PM
To: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.13

Angela von Sacken will respond to your inquiry. It may be another day or two before we get back to you.

Cheers

Linda

Linda Bates, BSc MBA PMP
Senior Manager, Legislation Section
Science and Policy Division
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-2357
E mail: linda.bates@gov.bc.ca

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From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:49 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: FW s.13

Hi Linda,

I am just following up on **s.13.s.14**
s.14

Many thanks,

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

From: Givner, Jessie FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2014 3:35 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: s.13

Hi Linda,
s.13

Could you please let me know whether your program has any comments, questions, or concerns about the proposed amendments on page 10 and 11 of these instructions?

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 250 356-6989 if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss this further.

Thank you,

Jessie

Jessie Givner
Senior Policy Analyst
Corporate Initiatives Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources
Email: Jessie.Givner@gov.bc.ca
Ph: 250 356-6989

Page 17

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2014 2:47 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Fur Farm Question

Categories: Red Category

Fur Farm Regulation

Draft 8 of the Fur Farm regulation

Section 18 requires a licensed fur farmer to keep the following records with regard to all dispositions (selling or giving away) and acquisitions (buying, given):

- The date of the transaction and
- The number of animals by sex and species involved in the transaction

Shouldn't we require every fur farmer to records the name and contact information of who they bought from or, sold to? Without this it seems like our ability to trace disease would be limited?

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Page 19 to/à Page 35

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 3:16 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: marking of pelts

Categories: Red Category, Blue Category

The note below is from Kate Craig at FLNRO. Apparently there is no requirement under the Wildlife Act to mark pelts. However, if you want them to mark pelts, we can require them to do so under our own regulation.

Please advise if you want me to proceed with this type of requirement and what the marking should include.

Thanks
Linda

Hi all,

Fur Farm Regulation

4.09 No licensee shall cause to be transported any pelts unless the parcel containing the pelts is properly marked and identified in the manner required by the Wildlife Branch of the ministry of the minister responsible for the administration of the Wildlife Act.

Question – can you identify what requirements exist for marking and identifying pelts? Should we be referencing a particular policy or regulation? (We will update the reference to Wildlife Branch).

I am uncertain what this section is referring to as there is nothing within the Wildlife Act, regulation or licence requirements that states the need for a pelt to be marked. A trapper or fur trader is required to have proper licencing and/or identifying information about the harvest of any pelts in their possession but there is no reference to the marking pelts.

I hope that you find this helpful.
Please let me know if I can assist any further with this.

Linda Bates, BSc MBA PMP
Senior Manager, Legislation Section
Science and Policy Division
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-2357

E mail: linda.bates@gov.bc.ca

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Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 5:33 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.
Attachments: MINK CODE REQUIREMENTS 1.docx

Categories: Red Category, reoccurring mtg

s.12,s.13

Hope this helps
Jane

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 8:11 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: AHA regs Q & A for minister

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Red Category

s.13

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2014 5:31 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: AHA regs Q & A for minister

Hi Jane,

We just finished briefing the minister on the six new AHA regs (a cast of many)! Two things came up during the briefing with the minister on the AHA regs.

Fur Farm Regulation.

s.13

Game Farm Regulation

s.13

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 9:40 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: AHA regs Q & A for minister

Categories: Red Category

s.13

s.13

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2014 5:32 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: AHA regs Q & A for minister

Hi Jane,

We just finished briefing the minister on the six new AHA regs (a cast of many)! Two things came up during the briefing with the minister on the AHA regs.

Fur Farm Regulation.

s.13

Game Farm Regulation

Thanks Jane. Crossing my fingers that they come into force soon!

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2014 11:12 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Fur farm

Categories: Red Category

The above/below is correct, and you are right, third bullet is simply an expired license.

- **Jane Pritchard | Chief Veterinary Officer and Director Plant and Animal Health Branch | B.C**
Ministry of Agriculture | Abbotsford | Phone: 604-556-3013

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2014 11:10 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fur farm

Okay I think I get what you and Linda were thinking.

s.12,s.13

Angela von Sacken, Senior Legislative Analyst
Corporate Governance, Policy & Legislation Branch
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 250 356-0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:55 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur farm question

Categories: Red Category, reoccurring mtg

Not that I know of, wouldn't make sense to buy some other competitor's pelts

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator
Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:37 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: fur farm question
Importance: High

Lynette,

Am I correct in understanding that fur farmers never buy pelts?

s.13

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:56 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur farm question

Categories: Red Category

Thanks. Good. FLNRO issues a fur buyer/pelt buyer license. So those people would be the buyers.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:55 AM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur farm question

Not that I know of, wouldn't make sense to buy some other competitor's pelts

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator
Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:37 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: fur farm question
Importance: High

Lynette,

Am I correct in understanding that fur farmers never buy pelts?

s.13

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2014 4:36 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Fur Farm Questions

Categories: Red Category

s.14

Yes only one species at a time

Jane Pritchard
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
British Columbia

On May 29, 2014, at 2:28 PM, "Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX" <Angela.VonSacken@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Jane, it can wait until tomorrow. I know you are tied up in mtgs.
Topic – fur farm reg. .
s.12,s.14

Angela von Sacken, Senior Legislative Analyst
Corporate Governance, Policy & Legislation Branch
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 250 356-0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2015 12:24 PM
To: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX
Cc: Last, Gavin AGRI:EX; Standish, Alana AGRI:EX; Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Patterson, Mat AGRI:EX; Collins, Christine D AGRI:EX; Fair, Susan P AGRI:EX
Subject: Speaking Notes AHA Regs Jan 2015 version 2
Attachments: Speaking Notes AHA Regs Jan 2015 version 2.docx

Categories: Red Category

Hi all:

Attached are revised speaking notes based on the discussion yesterday.

Please advise if you have any further comments that you'd like to include, and we can meet again on these.

FYI, the revised BN with the reg count info in the table is in e approvals so you should get it shortly.

The one-pagers are being updated and we will forward those tomorrow.

I am also pulling together a bit more info on the ministry reg count for a one-pager that we can provide on a "just in case" basis. I hope to have that information to you also tomorrow.

Cheers
Linda

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 3:06 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: Summary of AHA Regs for HLTH
Attachments: Summary of AHA Regs for HLTH.docx

Anything to add to this before I send to Gavin?

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2015 8:57 AM
To: Warwick, Julene AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Question: 181297 BN-Cabinet Review AHA Regs
Attachments: 181297 BN-Cabinet Review AHA Regs.docx

Categories: Red Category, reoccurring mtg

I added a column to the table showing changes to the Ministry reg count.

From: Warwick, Julene AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2015 4:23 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: Question: 181297 BN-Cabinet Review AHA Regs

Hi Linda,

Would it be possible to have you highlight the areas where you made the changes? Do you happen to have anything that shows the edits the DM requested? These would be helpful for Alana to have when she reviews the document. I've attached a copy, for highlighting purposes, to this email.

Thanks

Julene

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 8:19 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

Categories: Red Category

Thanks Jane. We only had the 2-3 follow up questions from the hour long briefing. Angela will follow up with exec and provide responses. Any further questions we will ensure are directed to you.

The briefing went well, there were just these few questions.

Cheers Linda

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 5:32 PM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

s.12,s.13

Hope this helps
Jane

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 11:34 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

Categories: Red Category

s.13

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 11:17 AM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

s.13

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 8:49 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

Hi:

Things in your checklist must conform to what's in the regulation. You can't add things to your checklist that you haven't enabled in the reg.

Just want to make sure that this is clear. Your checklist has no legal authority, only the reg has legal authority.

I'll leave it to you and Angela to sort out.

Linda

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 8:46 AM
To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

Having had all this tumbling in my brain overnight, I believe that the requirements that the SPCA may find lacking could be addressed within our inspection check-list, please see attached.

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 8:19 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX

Subject: Re: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

Thanks Jane. We only had the 2-3 follow up questions from the hour long briefing. Angela will follow up with exec and provide responses. Any further questions we will ensure are directed to you.

The briefing went well, there were just these few questions.

Cheers Linda

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2014 5:32 PM

To: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX

Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX

Subject: questions on the fur farming reg wrt the Mink code of practice.

s.12,s.13

Hope this helps

Jane

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 12:22 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Review of document for exec.

Categories: Red Category, Blue Category

Looks fine Angela,
Jane

From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2014 12:10 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Review of document for exec.

Jane, here is a draft of the note I want to send out later today. It will go to James, Derek and Alana (CC to you) who can then decide to pass it on to minister or not.

If you have a minute can you look it over. It is based on your e-mails. I'm sorry we created extra work for you.

I will send another note to review on the Game Farm.

DRAFT NOTE

There were a couple of questions that came up during the Animal Health Act Regulations briefing that are answered below. Jane Pritchard should be contacted if there are further questions on these topics.

Fur Farm Regulation

s.13

The attached document summarizes what has been included in the new fur farm regulation.

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX

From: Bates, Linda A. AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2014 11:21 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: Fur farm Reg questions

Importance: High

Categories: Red Category

Hi Jane:
s.12,s.13

Thanks
Linda.

Linda Bates, BSc MBA PMP
Senior Manager, Legislation Section
Science and Policy Division
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-2357

E mail: linda.bates@gov.bc.ca

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Page 54 to/à Page 60

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

From: [Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Collins, Christine D AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: FW: fur Farm question
Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 5:06:00 PM
Attachments: [image003.jpg](#)

Christine FYI

Please delete this sentence from the fur farm renewal form.

Total Numbers of Animals on Farm (include animals on shares or boarded for others) _____

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur Farm question
I don't think it's relevant, and will take it off – those forms are very old

Lynette Hare

Operations Coordinator

Ministry of Agriculture

Livestock Health Management and Regulatory Unit

1767 Angus Campbell Rd I Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Toll: 1-877-877-2474 I Tel: (604) 556-3093 Fax: (604) 556-3015

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From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 3:05 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur Farm question
Thanks Lynette.

The regulation requires that at renewal time you state the number and species by sex of animal intended to be kept on fur farm section 3(4). So your form will largely stay the same.

There is a statement under the table that says

Total Numbers of Animals on Farm (include animals on shares or boarded for others) _____

What is meant by this? Why would anyone be boarding or sharing fur farm animals?

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 2:37 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur Farm question

This is the fur farm renewal – which basically looks like the application form. I think we should just change the wording to # of breeders, male/females OR total animals, whatever Jane thinks we should be recording. When they record 10,000 animals, it seems like they are recording total number expected

Lynette Hare

Operations Coordinator

Ministry of Agriculture

Livestock Health Management and Regulatory Unit
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Toll: 1-877-877-2474 I Tel: (604) 556-3093 Fax: (604) 556-3015

logo_2014winner



From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2015 2:16 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: fur Farm question
Hi Lynette

Is there an annual inventory form that fur farmers can pull off the web and submit to you. I have looked on the web and I can't find any record keeping forms that apply to fur farmers. Under the new AHA we want to standardize the look and content of forms as much as we can.

Do fur farm license renewals work the same way as game farm license renewals? Do you send the old license document out at the end of February and ask them to review and make any changes?

Angela von Sacken | Senior Legislative Analyst | Ministry of Agriculture | Phone: 250 356 0248

From: [Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: RE: clarification under fur farm regulation
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 9:41:00 AM

Hi Jane,

The person might want to check under the animal control section of the local by-laws to see if there are any rules/requirements that apply to keeping/raising rabbits. I thought some municipalities did, but this is just a guess.

I agree with your assessment of the Fur Farm regulation. The regulation does not apply to the keeping of rabbits. They would have to adhere to the section about food and water for fur farm animals. For example if rabbits killed and refrigerated or frozen – the cooling equipment has to work properly.

Fur Farming regulation Food and water

12 (1) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that

- (a) each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food,
- (b) juvenile fur bearing animals are able to easily access food, if any, located on the lid of a nest box,
- (c) each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to clean, palatable water, and
- (d) waste feed is removed before fresh food is provided to fur bearing animals on the fur farm.

(2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that

- (a) food for fur bearing animals on the fur farm is stored at temperatures and in a manner that will prevent deterioration, and
- (b) equipment used to prepare and deliver food is cleaned and sanitized daily.

(3) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that fur bearing animals on the fur farm are not fed, or provided as food, any part of the carcass of another fur bearing animal

They also want to make sure that in keeping/raising the rabbits they are consistent with Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act ie not causing distress

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act

(2) For the purposes of this Act, an animal is in distress if it is

- (a) deprived of adequate food, water, shelter, ventilation, light, space, exercise, care or veterinary treatment,
 - (a.1) kept in conditions that are unsanitary,
 - (a.2) not protected from excessive heat or cold,

- (b) injured, sick, in pain or suffering, or
- (c) abused or neglected.

I agree with your response to sourcing. They should talk to CO of Environment. I doubt that sourcing from the wild is common, but MOE can explain when, why, how of that.

Wildlife Act

Property in wildlife

2 (1) Ownership in all wildlife in British Columbia is vested in the government.

(2) A person does not acquire a right of property in any wildlife except in accordance with a permit or licence issued under this Act or the Animal Health Act or as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:59 AM

To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX

Subject: clarification under fur farm regulation

We have an enquiry about farming martens, which are included. They want to know whether it is okay to also have rabbits and to feed rabbit meat to the martens. I said that I would check but that as rabbits are not defined under the reg as a fur bearing animal that it would not be a problem.

Correct? It is also not an animal health risk.

They also enquired about sourcing the martens from the wild and I directed them to the Canadian fur association to find other marten breeders and a conservation officer about sourcing from the wild. OK?

Thanks

Jane

Jane Pritchard

Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch

Chief Veterinary Officer

(604)556-3013

1767 Angus Campbell Rd,

Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

From: [Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)
Date: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:31:31 PM

Do you have a note on why and what we did? I was asking Jane as it would be good to have some background that I can include in the note.

Lorie Hrycuik
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-8299

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:31 PM
To: Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)
2015 Game Farm Reg

From: Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:29 PM
To: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)
When did we make change to the mink farm reg?
Lorie Hrycuik
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-8299

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:24 PM
To: Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)
Are you talking about codes generally or just the mink codes? According to Jane, the codes of practice have been implemented in the outcome based model in the Mink farm reg.

From: Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:21 PM
To: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)
Arlene, do you have any information on the codes of practice that have already been implemented?

I am also identifying the work that we have already done and organizing in the following way: companion, working, food animals (including game farm), fur farm animals, and foreign and exotics then I want to include the previous actions that we have done with mink farms

Lorie Hrycuik
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-8299

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:19 PM
To: Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX
Cc: Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)
The meeting is scheduled for April 19th at 1:30 pm.

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:06 PM
To: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Okay. That's fine. Thank you, Arlene. I have April 19th at 1:30pm booked. Looking forward to meeting with you. Please let me know where it's most convenient for me to meet you.

Thanks again.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Fur-Bearers

179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P4
Office: 604-435-1850

www.TheFurBearers.com

We're moving!

Please update your address book: The Fur-Bearers, Suite 701, 718-333 Brooksbank Ave, North Vancouver, BC V7J 3V8

Phone numbers and email addresses are unaffected

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX [<mailto:Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 4:04 PM

To: 'Lesley Fox'

Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Not at this point. The direction from the Minister is for the two of us to meet and for me to report back to her on our discussions.

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 4:00 PM

To: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Hi Arlene,

Thank you so very much. That would work great. Is it possible to have Lana join us also?

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Fur-Bearers

179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P4
Office: 604-435-1850

www.TheFurBearers.com

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Please update your address book: The Fur-Bearers, Suite 701, 718-333 Brooksbank Ave, North Vancouver, BC V7J 3V8

Phone numbers and email addresses are unaffected

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX [<mailto:Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 3:54 PM

To: 'Lesley Fox'

Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

That will work as well. Why don't we aim for Thursday, April 19th, at 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm?

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 3:50 PM

To: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Hi Arlene,

Thank you so much for your help.

How would you feel about scheduling a date for mid-April? We're in the middle of moving our office and just thinking about this more, I would feel better organized and prepared for our meeting if I could have a bit of extra time.

Would that work for you?

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Fur-Bearers

179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P4

Office: 604-435-1850

www.TheFurBearers.com

We're moving!

Please update your address book: The Fur-Bearers, Suite 701, 718-333 Brooksbank Ave, North Vancouver, BC V7J 3V8

Phone numbers and email addresses are unaffected

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX [<mailto:Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 2:21 PM

To: 'Lesley Fox'

Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Hi Lesley,

I would be happy to meet with you in person. Here are some options that work for me:

1. Tuesday, March 13, 2 pm to 3 pm
2. Monday, March 19, 10 am to 11 am
3. Thursday, March 22, 3pm to 4 pm
5. Friday, March 23, 9 am to 10 am

Let me know which of these you prefer and I will confirm our meeting.

Thank you,

Arlene

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 2:05 PM

To: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Hi Arlene,

I would prefer to meet with you in person if that is possible. Please let me know what date and time works best. Thank you.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Fur-Bearers

179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P4

Office: 604-435-1850

www.TheFurBearers.com

We're moving!

Please update your address book: The Fur-Bearers, Suite 701, 718-333 Brooksbank Ave, North Vancouver, BC V7J 3V8

Phone numbers and email addresses are unaffected

From: Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX [<mailto:Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 9:27 AM

To: 'lesley@thefurbearers.com'

Subject: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox)

Dear Ms. Fox,

I write in follow up to the email of March 5, 2018 from the Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, regarding the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox).

Since your organization is in Vancouver, I am happy to arrange a teleconference with you or, if you will be in Victoria in the near future, I can arrange a meeting at our ministry office in Victoria.

Please let me know which of these you prefer. As well, if you have any preferred dates for discussion please let me know and I will try my best to accommodate.

Thank you,

Arlene Anderson | Manager, Legislation

Corporate Governance, Policy and Legislation Branch | Ministry of Agriculture

250 356-5042 | Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca



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From: [Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX](#)
To: [Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX](#)
Subject: RE: fur farms
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 2:16:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Nice. Thanks!

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 2:17 PM
To: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: fur farms
Sure did ☺
Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer
Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474
Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

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From: Von Sacken, Angela AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 2:14 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: fur farms
Did you inspect all fur farms before relicencing when the Animal Health Act and new fur farm regulation came into effect on January 2015?
I'm reviewing speaking notes for minister.

Angela von Sacken | Ministry of Agriculture | Senior Legislative Analyst | phone: 250 356-0248

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 3:28 PM
To: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: three things to be aware of
Attachments: RE: Mink

Update:

SPCA (Eileen Drever is happy with our follow up – email attached) Mink farm has been given the official inspection report and Lynette will be revisiting the farm October 11th. A phone call will follow up next week on progress and if that seems less than enthusiastic a visit to the farm will occur before the 11th.

The BN on the wild sheep domestic sheep meeting will not see light of day before next week at the earliest.

s.79

I head out at 6am to Ottawa for NFAHWC. s.22
I will hold onto CVO role. Tomy will be Lab Director.

and will assume the duties.

I will update you if anything changes wrt mink s.79 but I am not expecting anything.

Jane

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: three things to be aware of

Thanks for the update. Please keep me in the loop

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 25, 2017, at 4:08 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

1. SPCA shared a complaint about a mink farm for animal welfare lodged by s.22 was on the farm. I picked this phone call up from Eileen Drever with the SPCA on Saturday. Today Lynette Hare and Michael Rawluk s.22 s.22 attended the farm and found it to be out of compliance with many areas of the Fur Farm Regulations. The farm has been given a week to 'clean up' and instructed to immediately address injuries and disease. SPCA has been given this information.
2. Wild sheep domestic sheep Movi meeting was today, about 15 people in person in Abbotsford and another 8 dialed in through Webex. BC, Yukon, NWT, Alaska, Ontario, Alberta and Washington State were represented. I will be summarizing the discussions and next steps. The comment that the conversations occur now without a feeling of being cornered or fear by all sides was expressed and that this is directly attributable to the pursuit of the science and establishing the reality of the disease situation on both the wild and domestic sides I think is a great result of the work that Glenna and the ENV and wildlife teams have been doing.

Jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Eileen Drever <edrever@spca.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:01 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Mink

Hi Jane,
Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter – it's appreciated
Eileen
Ps you coming to our Animal Cruelty Conference? October 17 & 18th

Eileen Drever
Senior Animal Protection Officer
Special Provincial Constable
BC SPCA Cruelty Investigations Division
1245 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5T 1R1
604.575.2249 (office)
604.575.2924 (facsimile)
1.855.622.7722 (Cruelty Investigations Hotline)
edrever@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

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From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Eileen Drever
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink

s.79

Thank you for sharing this with me. I will let you know how this progresses.

Jane Pritchard.

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 4:09 PM
To: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Cc: Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: three things to be aware of

1. SPCA shared a complaint about a mink farm for animal welfare lodged by s.22 who was on the farm. I picked this phone call up from Eileen Drever with the SPCA on Saturday. Today Lynette Hare and Michael Rawluk s.22 attended the farm and found it to be out of compliance with many areas of the Fur Farm Regulations. The farm has been given a week to 'clean up' and instructed to immediately address injuries and disease. SPCA has been given this information.
2. Wild sheep domestic sheep Movi meeting was today, about 15 people in person in Abbotsford and another 8 dialed in through Webex. BC, Yukon, NWT, Alaska, Ontario, Alberta and Washington State were represented. I will be summarizing the discussions and next steps. The comment that the conversations occur now without a feeling of being cornered or fear by all sides was expressed and that this is directly attributable to the pursuit of the science and establishing the reality of the disease situation on both the wild and domestic sides I think is a great result of the work that Glenna and the ENV and wildlife teams have been doing.
3. s.79

Jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Hryciuk, Lorie AGRI:EX; Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

I'd prefer staff. Whoever you think is appropriate from CGPL but loop Jane in as well (she may delegate as well)

From: Hryciuk, Lorie AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Mack, James AGRI:EX; Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

We were tasked and the letter that has been drafted states the same message that you have recommended below. I was just about to approve and send to you. Are you meeting? Or do you want staff to meet, as in myself and Arlene?

Lorie Hryciuk
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-8299

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 8:01 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

I was cc-ed on the incoming and talked to the Minister about this.

Can we see who the response got tasked to? I have direction that the response should be:

- Very short
- Clarify that at the meeting we in fact noted that there were differences and asked for her comments. Thank her for following up
- Task officials to meet with her to discuss her views so we can assess whether any changes need to be made.

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

Dear Minister Popham,

Last November, we met to revisit your previous intention of putting the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink into law (see attached docs for reference).

Some barriers that were identified at this meeting included the perception that the mink codes of practice were too restrictive and the Animal Health Act and Fur Farm Act (Acts) already cover mink related issues. Concerns were also raised that codes are constantly updated, making it difficult to monitor from an administrative perspective.

I am very concerned that you may be receiving bad advice, and that you are being blocked from your previous election commitment to increase animal welfare standards on BC's fur farms.

While the Animal Health Act does cover some of what is in the mink codes, the Act does so in general terms. This allows for loopholes and making terms open to interpretation. Animals on fur farms are still at risk.

For Example:

Act – *“Each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food.”*

Vs.

Codes – *“Feed intakes must be monitored at least daily and the feeding program adjusted to compensate for intake lowering factors (e.g. high temps).... Feed management strategies must be adjusted to meet intake needs for altered growth patterns associated with melatonin use.”*

Also, there are several inadequacies in the Animal Health Act that could further compromise the welfare of mink on BC's fur farms.

General care:

- No mention of biosecurity, especially related to Aleutian disease.
- No proper training requirements for people to recognize sick animals, provide treatment, or euthanize.
- No requirement to use CO for euthanizing mink.
- No mentions of how to confirm death of an animal.

Food and Water:

- No body conditioning scores to help accurately assess animal health.
- Feed not required to have been tested for nutritional value.

Structures and pens:

- Actual size requirements for pen sizes based on type and amount of animals not mentioned.
- No mention of how littermates can be housed.
- No requirement for toy enrichment (golf ball).
- Lacks the better details on dealing with breeding, birthing and whelping of kits.

As you may remember, our association represents over 70,000 supporters, with the majority of our base residing in BC. Our mandate is to reduce and eliminate the suffering endured by fur-bearing animals in the wild and confinement. **The fur farming industry in BC has a history of poor animal welfare standards, and further attention is needed to this matter.**

Regarding the issue of codes being constantly updated, and that this causes administrative frustration, I understand that concern. However, as you know, the wording of such a law could be crafted to address those concerns. For example, *“The requirements and recommended best practices contained in the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink, as published and amended from time to time by the National Farm Animal Care Council, are recognized as reasonable and generally accepted practices of mink farming for the purposes of section 24.02 (c) of the Act.”*

Can we please reassure our supporters that you will put forward a motion to adopt the federal codes of practice for the care and handling of mink into law?

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Fur-Bearers
179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P4
Office: 604-435-1850
www.TheFurBearers.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: three things to be aware of

Thanks for the update. Please keep me in the loop

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 25, 2017, at 4:08 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

1. SPCA shared a complaint about a mink farm for animal welfare lodged by s.22 who was on the farm. I picked this phone call up from Eileen Drever with the SPCA on Saturday. Today Lynette Hare and Michael Rawluk s.22
s.22 attended the farm and found it to be out of compliance with many areas of the Fur Farm Regulations. The farm has been given a week to 'clean up' and instructed to immediately address injuries and disease. SPCA has been given this information.
2. Wild sheep domestic sheep Movi meeting was today, about 15 people in person in Abbotsford and another 8 dialed in through Webex. BC, Yukon, NWT, Alaska, Ontario, Alberta and Washington State were represented. I will be summarizing the discussions and next steps. The comment that the conversations occur now without a feeling of being cornered or fear by all sides was expressed and that this is directly attributable to the pursuit of the science and establishing the reality of the disease situation on both the wild and domestic sides I think is a great result of the work that Glenna and the ENV and wildlife teams have been doing.
3. s.79

Jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 4:16 PM
To: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX; McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX; Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX
Cc: Hodson, Georgina AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fwd: three things to be aware of

Heads up on three issues at the lab.

Sending along because mink farms tend to attract
Media interest and s.79

Not much details right now but we'll keep you in the loop.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX" <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 25, 2017 at 4:08:49 PM PDT
To: "Mack, James AGRI:EX" <James.Mack@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX" <Melissa.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: three things to be aware of

1. SPCA shared a complaint about a mink farm for animal welfare lodged by s.22 who was on the farm. I picked this phone call up from Eileen Drever with the SPCA on Saturday. Today Lynette Hare and Michael Rawluk s.22
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Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC, V3G2M3

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 3:31 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: three things to be aware of

Thanks - looks like all the files are progressing in the right direction

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 26, 2017, at 3:28 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Update:

SPCA (Eileen Drever is happy with our follow up – email attached) Mink farm has been given the official inspection report and Lynette will be revisiting the farm October 11th. A phone call will follow up next week on progress and if that seems less than enthusiastic a visit to the farm will occur before the 11th.

The BN on the wild sheep domestic sheep meeting will not see light of day before next week at the earliest.

s.79

I head out at 6am to Ottawa for NFAHWC. s.22 and will
assume the duties. I will hold onto CVO role. Tomy will be Lab Director.

I will update you if anything changes wrt mink s.79 but I am not expecting anything.

Jane

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: three things to be aware of

Thanks for the update. Please keep me in the loop

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 25, 2017, at 4:08 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

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3. s.79

Jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

<mime-attachment>

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX; McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX; Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: Update on JAne Pritchard's last update

Closing the loop on a few of these:

- 1) Licensing enforcement on mink farm:
 - a. We provided inspection report to farm.
 - b. Will follow up by phone to see if remedial actions are underway. Site inspection to happen October 11th.
 - c. SPCA is pleased with Ministry's actions
- 2) Domestic/Wild Sheep interactions
 - a. Meeting was positive as described below. We're preparing an update for Minister on this for next week.
- 3) s.79

James Mack
Assistant Deputy Minister – Agriculture Science and Policy
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 250-356-1821
Fax: 250-356-7279
e-mail: James.mack@gov.bc.ca
s.79

On Sep 25, 2017, at 4:08 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

1. SPCA shared a complaint about a mink farm for animal welfare lodged by s.22 who was on the farm. I picked this phone call up from Eileen Drever with the SPCA on Saturday. Today Lynette Hare and Michael Rawluk s.22 attended the farm and found it to be out of compliance with many areas of the Fur Farm Regulations. The farm has been given a week to 'clean up' and instructed to immediately address injuries and disease. SPCA has been given this information.
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Jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Hryciuk, Lorie AGRI:EX
Cc: North, Anna AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Meeting Follow-up RE: Animal Welfare Priorities
Attachments: BriefingNote_animal_welfare_policies_BCagriculture_Nov2017.pdf

Not sure if this will come through correspondence for a reply. Sending now as it would be useful to reference this in the animal welfare briefing note.

James Mack

Assistant Deputy Minister – Agriculture Science and Policy

Ministry of Agriculture

Phone: 250-356-1821

Email: james.mack@gov.bc.ca

From: Michael Bernard [<mailto:mbernard@hsi.org>]
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2017 8:10 AM
To: Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX; Johnson, Lisa E AGRI:EX
Cc: Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX; Rebecca Aldworth; Julie MacInnes; Riana Topan
Subject: Meeting Follow-up RE: Animal Welfare Priorities

Dear Minister Popham,

On behalf of Humane Society International/Canada, I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with us by phone recently to discuss animal welfare issues under your purview. As a follow-up to our conversation, please find attached a briefing note outlining key animal welfare priorities for your consideration.

We were very encouraged to hear that you intend to make animal welfare a priority within your department and we would welcome the opportunity to further discuss these issues with you and your department staff at your convenience. To that end, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime should you have any questions, clarifications, or comments regarding the attached briefing and we look forward to any feedback you might have.

Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael Bernard
Deputy Director/Directeur Adjoint
mbernard@hsi.org
t 613.371.5170
Humane Society International/Canada

[Join Our Email List](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

From: "Johnson, Lisa E AGRI:EX" <Lisa.Johnson@gov.bc.ca>

Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 4:24 PM

To: Microsoft Office User <mbernard@hsi.org>

Subject: RE: Confirming call

Hi Michael,

Thank you for confirming the conference call

Call in details as follows

Dial-in Phone Number:

1-877-353-9184

Access Code: s.17

Participant Conference ID (Minister's office to moderate)

Regards

Lisa

From: Michael Bernard [mailto:mbernard@hsi.org]

Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 1:06 PM

To: Johnson, Lisa E AGRI:EX

Subject: Confirming call

Hi Lisa,

Pleasure chatting just now and happy to confirm we're available for the call with the Minister at 4pm PST. Joining us from HSI/Canada will be: Rebecca Aldworth, executive director; Julie MacInnes and Riana Topan, campaign managers; and myself. Please let me know the conference line when you can and if you need anything further from our end in the meantime.

Thank you so much for your time!

Michael

Michael Bernard

Deputy Director/Directeur Adjoint

mbernard@hsi.org

t 613.371.5170

Humane Society International/Canada

[Join Our Email List](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**
CANADA

Briefing Note: Animal Welfare Policy Recommendations for the Ministry of Agriculture

British Columbians are looking to the new NDP Government to take swift action to define a legislative action plan for animals. The Department of Agriculture now has a landmark opportunity to improve the lives of countless animals. **HSI/Canada recommends the following:**

Prohibit the possession, sale, and distribution of shark fins

Shark finning is the cruel practice of cutting the fins off of a shark and throwing it back into the ocean to die slowly. 100 million sharks are killed for their fins every year, adversely impacting entire ocean ecosystems. In recent years, Canada has imported 100-150 tons of shark fins annually. A recent study indicates 76% of shark fins sold in the Vancouver area are from species listed as vulnerable by the IUCN.

12 BC municipalities have prohibited shark fins, and the Union of BC Municipalities called on the provincial government follow suit. In November 2017, Sonia Furstenuau introduced the *Fish and Seafood Amendment Act*, which would restrict the possession and distribution of shark fins within BC. *HSI urges the Ministry of Agriculture to move this bill forward or introduce similar legislation as a matter of urgency.*

Make the NFACC Codes of Practice legal requirements

While the BC government incorporated the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle into provincial law, it neglected to do so for other NFACC codes. This has created a patchwork system that creates confusion for all stakeholders.

Five provinces have adopted the codes of practice for farm animals: Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Newfoundland, New Brunswick and PEI. PEI's adoption established best practices, using language that ensures the most up-to-date code is always relevant: "All standards, codes of practice, criteria, guidelines, reports, policies, practices, procedures and other documents referred to or adopted by these regulations are incorporated by reference as amended from time to time." *HSI/Canada recommends that the BC government incorporate NFACC codes of practice into the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act as mandatory, minimum standards of care for farm animals. The codes of practice should form the basis of an offence under section 9 of the PCA Act, not merely be used to elucidate the defence under section 24.*

End intensive confinement of farm animals

Eliminate all caging for laying hens – Nearly 2.4 million egg-laying hens in BC are confined in small, crowded battery cages that can be used until 2036. After that, other inhumane caging systems will be permitted. Research has demonstrated that cage-free egg systems are significantly better for laying hen welfare, can result in lower mortality rates, and may produce more nutritious eggs. *HSI/Canada urges the Ministry of Agriculture to transition BC to 100% cage-free systems in the near term.*

Eliminate gestation crates for pregnant pigs – The NFACC Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs will ban continuous housing in gestation crates by 2024. However, gestation crates can still be

Celebrating Animals | Confronting Cruelty
Worldwide

used for up to 16 weeks after that date. These crates severely restrict movement and subject highly social animals to injuries, distress and boredom. 84 percent of Canadians support a complete phase out of gestation crates. *HSI/Canada urges the BC government to prohibit gestation crates as a matter of priority.*

Eliminate crates for veal calves – Veal crates are small, barren stalls that prevent baby cows from being able to turn around or lie down comfortably, or to interact with other animals. The crates are legal in Canada despite scientific evidence proving them inhumane. *HSI/Canada urges the BC government to prohibit veal crates as a matter of priority.*

Improve on-farm care and slaughterhouse surveillance

Canadian farm animal care programs are highly inconsistent: not all industries have animal care programs, and not all programs that do exist are mandatory in all provinces. *HSI/Canada recommends that BC require the animal agribusiness sector to operate mandatory, robust, third-party audited animal care programs, requiring all producers to meet or exceed standards defined in the Codes of Practice and face penalties for non-compliance (as in the Chicken Farmers of Canada's Animal Care Program).*

Canadian investigations have revealed the horrific mistreatment of animals before slaughter. France, England and Israel now require slaughterhouses to install video surveillance equipment to ensure humane treatment of animals. *HSI/Canada recommends that BC require provincial slaughterhouses to install video surveillance equipment, with feeds available to health officers, meat inspectors and the public.*

Prohibit fur farming

Every year in BC, hundreds of thousands of animals, including minks and foxes, suffer tremendously on fur farms. These naturally far roaming animals live in horrific conditions in tiny, filthy cages, and are denied basic care and the ability to satisfy their most basic instinctual behaviours. Their suffering peaks at slaughter, when they are killed by gassing, neck-breaking, lethal injection or anal electrocution. Veterinary authorities state that fur farming causes unacceptable suffering and this is one of the many reasons Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia and the UK have banned or severely restricted fur farming. Similar legislation is pending in Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and Poland. *HSI/Canada urges the Ministry of Agriculture to work towards a provincial prohibition on fur farming.*

Further recommendations:

Encourage the federal government to improve and update Canada's animal transport regulations to bring them in line with global best practices. The Government of Canada has stalled for far too long on updating the animal transport regulations and *HSI/Canada encourages the BC Ministry of Agriculture to request that the federal government immediately release improved regulations.*

Increase funding and powers of enforcement bodies. Animal welfare enforcement agencies lack the dedicated funding and resources required to do their jobs effectively. *HSI/Canada encourages the ministry to develop robust regulations pertaining to the licensing and/or registration of commercial breeders of cats and dogs, and increase funding for enforcement agencies. we have already reached out to your staff to offer information and support for this process.*

Celebrating Animals | Confronting Cruelty
Worldwide

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 8:01 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.
Attachments: Popham fur codes.pdf; 2016 PMB- Final - Got Mink.docx

I was cc-ed on the incoming and talked to the Minister about this.

Can we see who the response got tasked to? I have direction that the response should be:

- Very short
- Clarify that at the meeting we in fact noted that there were differences and asked for her comments. Thank her for following up
- Task officials to meet with her to discuss her views so we can assess whether any changes need to be made.

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

Dear Minister Popham,

Last November, we met to revisit your previous intention of putting the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink into law (see attached docs for reference).

Some barriers that were identified at this meeting included the perception that the mink codes of practice were too restrictive and the Animal Health Act and Fur Farm Act (Acts) already cover mink related issues. Concerns were also raised that codes are constantly updated, making it difficult to monitor from an administrative perspective.

I am very concerned that you may be receiving bad advice, and that you are being blocked from your previous election commitment to increase animal welfare standards on BC's fur farms.

While the Animal Health Act does cover some of what is in the mink codes, the Act does so in general terms. This allows for loopholes and making terms open to interpretation. Animals on fur farms are still at risk.

For Example:

Act – "Each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food."

Vs.

Codes – "Feed intakes must be monitored at least daily and the feeding program adjusted to compensate for intake lowering factors (e.g. high temps)... Feed management strategies must be adjusted to meet intake needs for altered growth patterns associated with melatonin use."

Also, there are several inadequacies in the Animal Health Act that could further compromise the welfare of mink on BC's fur farms.

General care:

- No mention of biosecurity, especially related to Aleutian disease.
- No proper training requirements for people to recognize sick animals, provide treatment, or euthanize.
- No requirement to use CO for euthanizing mink.
- No mentions of how to confirm death of an animal.

Food and Water:

- No body conditioning scores to help accurately assess animal health.
- Feed not required to have been tested for nutritional value.

Structures and pens:

- Actual size requirements for pen sizes based on type and amount of animals not mentioned.
- No mention of how littermates can be housed.
- No requirement for toy enrichment (golf ball).
- Lacks the better details on dealing with breeding, birthing and whelping of kits.

As you may remember, our association represents over 70,000 supporters, with the majority of our base residing in BC. Our mandate is to reduce and eliminate the suffering endured by fur-bearing animals in the wild and confinement. **The fur farming industry in BC has a history of poor animal welfare standards, and further attention is needed to this matter.**

Regarding the issue of codes being constantly updated, and that this causes administrative frustration, I understand that concern. However, as you know, the wording of such a law could be crafted to address those concerns. For example, "The requirements and recommended best practices contained in the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink, as published and amended from time to time by the National Farm Animal Care Council, are recognized as reasonable and generally accepted practices of mink farming for the purposes of section 24.02 (c) of the Act."

Can we please reassure our supporters that you will put forward a motion to adopt the federal codes of practice for the care and handling of mink into law?

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

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THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE
PROTECTION
of Fur-Bearing Animals

179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P4

Telephone: 604-435-1850

Fax: 604-435-1840

fbd@furbearerdefenders.com

November 17, 2017

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture
Room 325 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Re: Codes for the Care and Handling of Mink/Foxes

Dear Minister Popham,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me today, to discuss issues of importance to the members and supporters of The Fur-Bearers, and many animal lovers in British Columbia. I'd also like to thank you for working with us in the past on these issues. While there are many subjects related to these interests that are worthy of discussion, I recognize your limited time and thought I would summarize the relevant points of conversation from our meeting:

- Animal welfare must be a priority in the government of a modern British Columbia, and animal and environmental issues played a clear role in the last election.
- The fur farming industry in British Columbia is relatively small. There are approximately a dozen mink farms located primarily in the Fraser Valley. Currently, to the best of our knowledge, there are no fox fur farms in BC.
- Photos and video footage of local mink farms obtained by The Fur-Bearers showed deplorable conditions, but sadly the evidence wasn't enough to result in charges or adequate protections for these animals.
- The Animal Welfare Act in British Columbia does not offer the necessary specificity required to protect animals on fur farms.
- The Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink (and Fox) is approved by the fur industry, but is not law. Implementing these as law, as your past Private Members Bill attempted, would create enforceable and measurable standards to ensure a baseline of protection.

Our request is for you or the government to reintroduce legislation that would make these codes law as a basic step toward protecting for fur farmed animals in British Columbia. Such legislation is also supported by the BC SPCA.

Thank you for your time, and for your ongoing support of animal welfare in our province.

Warmest regards,

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Fur-Bearers

Fifth Session, Fortieth Parliament
65 Elizabeth II, 2016
Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

BILL M 2**

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Mink Farms) Amendment Act, 2016

Ms. Lana Popham

Explanatory Note

This Act amends the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* to include the recommended best practices contained in the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink, as recommended by the National Farm Animal Care Council.

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1 The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 372, is amended by adding the following section:

9.4

(1) In this section:

- (a) "**Act**" means the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act;
- (b) "**mink**" means any mink raised for a commercial purpose;
- (c) "**mink farming**" means the keeping and use of mink.

The requirements and recommended best practices contained in the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink, as published and amended from time to time by the National Farm Animal Care Council, are recognized as reasonable and generally accepted practices of mink farming for the purposes of section 24.02 (c) of the Act.

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 8:14 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX
Cc: Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

Wow - we'll first point is that if I send you emails after hours you don't have to respond after hours. Now I feel bad.

I'd say that my office will follow up to arrange time for staff to meet with her. Then we'll get Lorie to assign someone to the meeting

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 8, 2018, at 8:04 PM, Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX <Susan.Shust@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi James - I took a quick look in cliff and it appears as though this is still with the MO for assignment. I'll update the log and get this sent to staff asap.

Do you want staff names included in the outgoing? If so, who would be best to say will meet with her?

Thanks
Susan

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 8:01 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

I was cc-ed on the incoming and talked to the Minister about this.

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- Very short
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From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

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Act – "Each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food."

Vs.

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Lesley Fox
Executive Director

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www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Hryciuk, Lorie AGRI:EX; Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

I'd prefer staff. Whoever you think is appropriate from CGPL but loop Jane in as well (she may delegate as well)

From: Hryciuk, Lorie AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Mack, James AGRI:EX; Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

We were tasked and the letter that has been drafted states the same message that you have recommended below. I was just about to approve and send to you. Are you meeting? Or do you want staff to meet, as in myself and Arlene?

Lorie Hryciuk
Ministry of Agriculture
250-356-8299

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 8:01 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

I was cc-ed on the incoming and talked to the Minister about this.

Can we see who the response got tasked to? I have direction that the response should be:

- Very short
- Clarify that at the meeting we in fact noted that there were differences and asked for her comments. Thank her for following up
- Task officials to meet with her to discuss her views so we can assess whether any changes need to be made.

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@thefurbearers.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Popham.MLA, Lana LASS:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.

Dear Minister Popham,

Last November, we met to revisit your previous intention of putting the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink into law (see attached docs for reference).

Some barriers that were identified at this meeting included the perception that the mink codes of practice were too restrictive and the Animal Health Act and Fur Farm Act (Acts) already cover mink related issues. Concerns were also raised that codes are constantly updated, making it difficult to monitor from an administrative perspective.

I am very concerned that you may be receiving bad advice, and that you are being blocked from your previous election commitment to increase animal welfare standards on BC's fur farms.

While the Animal Health Act does cover some of what is in the mink codes, the Act does so in general terms. This allows for loopholes and making terms open to interpretation. Animals on fur farms are still at risk.

For Example:

Act – *"Each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food."*

Vs.

Codes – *"Feed intakes must be monitored at least daily and the feeding program adjusted to compensate for intake lowering factors (e.g. high temps).... Feed management strategies must be adjusted to meet intake needs for altered growth patterns associated with melatonin use."*

Also, there are several inadequacies in the Animal Health Act that could further compromise the welfare of mink on BC's fur farms.

General care:

- No mention of biosecurity, especially related to Aleutian disease.
- No proper training requirements for people to recognize sick animals, provide treatment, or euthanize.
- No requirement to use CO for euthanizing mink.
- No mentions of how to confirm death of an animal.

Food and Water:

- No body conditioning scores to help accurately assess animal health.
- Feed not required to be have been tested for nutritional value.

Structures and pens:

- Actual size requirements for pen sizes based on type and amount of animals not mentioned.
- No mention of how littermates can be housed.
- No requirement for toy enrichment (golf ball).
- Lacks the better details on dealing with breeding, birthing and whelping of kits.

As you may remember, our association represents over 70,000 supporters, with the majority of our base residing in BC. Our mandate is to reduce and eliminate the suffering endured by fur-bearing animals in the wild and confinement. **The fur farming industry in BC has a history of poor animal welfare standards, and further attention is needed to this matter.**

Regarding the issue of codes being constantly updated, and that this causes administrative frustration, I understand that concern. However, as you know, the wording of such a law could be crafted to address those concerns. For example, "The requirements and recommended best practices contained in the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink, as published and amended from time to time by the National Farm Animal Care Council, are recognized as reasonable and generally accepted practices of mink farming for the purposes of section 24.02 (c) of the Act."

Can we please reassure our supporters that you will put forward a motion to adopt the federal codes of practice for the care and handling of mink into law?

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Fur-Bearers
179 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1P4
Office: 604-435-1850
www.TheFurBearers.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers



Virus-free. www.avast.com

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE

Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 8:01 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink Codes vs. Animal Health Act/Fur Farm Act.
Attachments: Popham fur codes.pdf; 2016 PMB- Final - Got Mink.docx

I was cc-ed on the incoming and talked to the Minister about this.

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Virus-free. www.avast.com

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Can we please reassure our supporters that you will put forward a motion to adopt the federal codes of practice for the care and handling of mink into law?

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

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You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 2:18 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 237685 - draft RED response

Thanks Jane

I guess it explains the context from AGRI's perspective. I understand better how the regulatory expectations work. It would still be useful to clarify a few specific points, as I don't think this situation is tenable as is in-region:

- 1) When was the facility authorized and under what regulation? May 1, 2012 Animal Health Act, Fur Farm Regulations
- 2) Was there any facility inspections completed? (sounds like – yes- based on below, is it done annually? No, done as required. Or just prior to start up?) Two inspections completed, 2012 and 2015
- 3) Is there/was there any requirement to develop a management plan or health plan for the facility? Herd health management plan required, and completed.
- 4) Did you place any other requirements on the applicant/operator? Compliance with the National Mink Code of Practice
- 5) Does the license expire at any point? Is there opportunity to update facility requirements during that process? The license is expired, Mar 31.
- 6) Did the Regional District provide written support for the mink farm (eg consistent with Zoning) Yes, letter was attached with the application package from the Regional District of East Kootenay that the land was zoned correctly to allow fur farm.

I get your point about the zoning possibly being an underlying issue here, and I think the Reg District has regrets, but that came after the application was approved as far as I know. Incorrect, the authorization from district has to accompany the application

It seems that the outward facing aspects of running these facilities, such as grizzly bear conflicts and associated public safety risks in this case, don't have a space for discussion/consideration, and are someone else's problem – eg. F & W and Conservation officers? I have been recently informed by my ministry staff working on grizzly bear management and recovery, and the COS regarding how this facility is strongly affecting grizzly bear use and conflict in the area both spring and fall, and is considered a high priority for mitigation.

I'll keep you informed on what our next steps are as there appears to be a need to mitigate some risks to avoid public safety issues.

John Krebs

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 12:14 PM
To: Krebs, John A FLNR:EX
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 237685 - draft RED response

Agriculture licenses the fur farms under the Fur Farm Regulation under the Animal Health Act. The requirements are more around care and control of the mink.

Initial application process requires us to insure that the land that will be used is zoned for agricultural use, that was done. It requires a site visit to insure the mink will be protected from weather and provided with adequate cage space, that was done. Lynette Hare who is a mink farm inspector and maintains the licensing records can provide the documentation and further details.

We are not required to determine much else. I suspect that if this were a poultry, dairy or swine production unit the complaints would be similar, which leads this complaint more into whether this should be zoned for any agricultural use, as even crops in the fall will be a bear attractant when dropped before combining.

Does that help?

Jane

From: Krebs, John A FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 7:34 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: 237685 - draft RED response

Jane – Are you able to assist with this Minister Letter? I am getting inquiries from CSS.

Thank you

John Krebs

From: Krebs, John A FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 7:47 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Subject: FW: 237685 - draft RED response
Importance: High

Hello Jane

I am looking for some input from Agriculture on the attached CLIFF letter regarding a mink farm in the ^{s.79}
s.79 The writer expresses a number of concerns regarding the facility and operations, among other issues related to Grizzly bears etc. . I'm wondering if you or one of your staff could assist me with the response. Alternatively, if you can direct me to the appropriate person in your ministry that would be of great assistance.

Regards



John Krebs
Director | Resource Management | Kootenay Boundary Region
Regional Manager | Recreational Fisheries and Wildlife Programs
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Phone: (250) 489-8547 | e-mail: John.Krebs@gov.bc.ca

From: Thom, Lisa M FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:34 PM
To: Krebs, John A FLNR:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX
Cc: Thom, Lisa M FLNR:EX; Cadogan, Iris FLNR:EX

Subject: FW: 237685 - draft RED response
Importance: High

Hi Holger and John,

For your response please.

Thanks,
Lisa

From: FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca [mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:43 PM
To: Cadogan, Iris FLNR:EX
Cc: Cadogan, Iris FLNR:EX; Thom, Lisa M FLNR:EX
Subject: 237685 - draft RED response

Good afternoon,

Fish & Wildlife branch advised that this incoming should go to the region for response. Can you confirm that you can respond?

Thanks,
Eleni

DM-CSS Referral Slip for ID:237685

2018/04/11

<i>Log Type:</i> Letter via Email	<i>Action:</i> Draft Reply	<i>Due:</i> 2018/04/11
<i>Batch:</i>	<i>Sig Level:</i> Regional Executive Director	

Author Type: Private Citizen
s.22

Written: 2018/03/19 *Resp Type:*
Received: 2018/03/20 *File No.:*
Due: 2018/04/11 *Entered By:* CS
Approved: *Approved By:*
Signed: *Signed By:*

Phone

Email:

Closed:

Address To: Minister Donaldson
Rsp Office: RS-Fish and Wildlife
X-Ref:

Copy To:
Issue: Grizzly bears
Drafter:

With BN:

Subject

Complaint regarding a mink farm located in prime Grizzly territory in the Elk Valley. The Farm Practices Protection Act is allowing the farm to compost mink carcasses, which is drawing the Grizzlies into dangerous proximity to farmers and other residents. Also, mink are escaping and causing problems for local farmers.

Attached is an email of support from Clayton Lamb, March 19, 2018, South Rockies Grizzly Bear Project, that collars bears, and includes a map of the area that confirms the attraction of the farm for Grizzlies.

Log Notes

2018/04/11 needs to be addressed by region

2018/03/20 ED Response obo Minister - sent to OPR, please provide:

1. Draft bullets or wording
 2. Addresses for PCs in draft response, including pc for Minister, (c.c. FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca, if email response)
 3. Approved by (OPR to enter into Log Notes in CLIFF)
 4. Drafter's name (OPR to complete drafter field in CLIFF)
- Please note, a starter template has been provided.

This is due to CSS (FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca) by April 5, 2018.

Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister

From:	DM-CSS	Sent:	2018/03/20	Status:	Completed	Ref Action:	FYI/File
To:	MO-Minister	Received:		Reason:		Sig Level:	
Assign To:		Completed:	2018/03/20	Due:		File No.:	

Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS

From:	MO-Minister	Sent:	2018/03/20	Status:	Accepted	Ref Action:	Coordinate Response
To:	DM-CSS	Received:	2018/03/20	Reason:		Sig Level:	
Assign To:		Completed:		Due:	2018/04/05 (Pending (4))	File No.:	

Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS -> RS-Fish and Wildlife

From:	DM-CSS	Sent:	2018/03/20	Status:	Rejected	Ref Action:	Draft Wording/Bullets
To:	RS-Fish and Wildlife	Received:		Reason:	to region to respond	Sig Level:	
Assign To:		Completed:	2018/04/11	Due:	2018/04/05	File No.:	

Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS -> SO-RKB

From:	DM-CSS	Sent:	2018/04/11	Status:	Pending	Ref Action:	Draft Wording/Bullets
To:	SO-RKB	Received:		Reason:		Sig Level:	
Assign To:		Completed:		Due:	2018/04/09 (Active (2))	File No.:	

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 3:05 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW:
Attachments: Grizzly Bear-Mink Farm Letter .pdf; Re: Grizzly Bear-Mink Farm Letter

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 2:37 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject:

Heads up.

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX
Cc: Minister, ENV ENV:EX; Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX; Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX; Clayton Lamb; Chow, Emily FLNR:EX; s.22 : Mike Sosnowski; Caravetta, Joe ENV:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Subject: Grizzly Bear-Mink Farm Letter

March 19, 2018

Honourable Doug Donaldson
Minister of FLNR

Four years have now passed since my last letter regarding the Mink Farm in the Elk Valley. Four years ago we had concerns and raised many issues regarding this farm. Now I am writing to advise you that this is becoming a major safety and dangerous situation with all of the grizzly bear activity on my property as well as my neighbors, a real threat to both the grizzly bears and to humans.

Again, this is not the Fraser Valley. This mink farm is located in prime grizzly bear country, in the ELK VALLEY. The Farm Practice Protection Act protects the farmer, so where are the protections for the neighboring residents – Health, Safety and Environmentally? Does the right to farm override the safety of residents? Maybe it is time to amend the Fur Farm Regulations. Also, prior to issuing this type of permit for this type of farm, where was the due diligence – to evaluate PHYSICALLY and on site, whether this type of “farm” is in the best interest of the MANY vs ONE?

In 2014, because of the frequency of gun shots from the mink farm, we started documenting the shots, occurring at all hours of the day and night. What do you suppose he is shooting at 1:00a.m.?

I have been in contact with the Conservation Officers for the past few years, keeping them aware of the bear situation. We have had the game wardens here because of the grizzly activity as have our neighbours. The Conservation Officer and myself (with guns for safety) followed the well travelled grizzly trail from our property to the mink farm. The CO was alarmed at the grizzly activity and stated he has not seen such bear activity since the Elk Valley had the open landfills.

We have had a short reprieve, from mid November to now, (because of hibernation) where we were comfortable walking on our property or walking to our shop, or even sitting around our fire pit without a rifle with us at all times. Last year the first set of grizzly tracks were noticed behind our house on April 1, when there was still approximately 2 feet of snow on the ground.

We are so vigilant in every way, ever since we have lived here, not to have any animal attractants of any kind on our property and yet the “FARMS ACT” allows this unnatural baiting of the grizzlies and all other predators. As I mentioned above, we have been keeping logs of the shooting activity, times and dates, coming from the mink farm. This is a dangerous situation. The grizzlies are prowling around my home and I hope this does not lead to them being destroyed. With spring here we most definitely will be confronting grizzly bears and I will be reporting to not only the CO's, RAAP but also to Grizzly Bear Foundation, Wilderness Committee, Bear Aware, Bear Safe, Wild Site, Wild Safe, BC Fish & Wildlife, etc. Isn't it ironic that we have had so much bear activity on our property, have reported to RAAP, CO's, and that we were told that the mink farmer has not reported one bear incident? This seems highly suspicious.

We also have volunteered to collect hair samples from our property line for^{s.22} there is no shortage of samples.

Our neighbors have had trail cameras out on their property since 2009. They have pictures of the odd grizzly bear passing through in the spring and again in the fall until the past few years. Now the grizzly bears are filmed almost daily. Clayton Lamb, from the South Rockies Grizzly Bear Project collared two large male grizzlies overnight, yes, that's right, overnight, with a third bear on camera on their property.

We have family that comes annually to camp out in our back yard, but will have to end this because of our safety concerns. Why should we have to change our way of life because of "THE FARMS ACT" that allows the baiting of dangerous animals.

Gillian Sanders (Kootenay Boundary Grizzly Fencing) informed us that the Mink Farmer is contemplating an electric fence obviously to keep the bears away from the "bait station". This will keep the farmer safe but what about us and our neighbours? As the smell of the attractant will still coax and attract the grizzlies in.

December 27th of 2017 we had a farmed mink under our closed in deck. We have cats so were unable to trap it and couldn't shoot it. Our neighbor caught one in her chicken coop, killing her chickens, she notified the Game Warden who came out and collected the mink. How many more of these mink have escaped? Since there is no inspections, or requirements for vaccinations of these animals how many carry diseases which could spread to the wild mink, martin, etc. What about the hundreds of crows and ravens we see flying with large pieces of, what we assume to be, decomposing carcasses, carrying and dropping the composting carcasses of these mink in the springs, ponds and Nordstrom Creek, which runs through the mink farm.

According to Ken Nickel, BC Ministry of Agriculture in January of 2014, the Ministry of Agriculture **generally** does on-farm inspections but inspections are not required under the legislation. Maybe it is time to change the legislation. I would like to know, via freedom of information, how many inspections have been done on this farm. I asked this in 2014 and I have still, yet to hear a reply. Are the proper farm practices being followed, such as the composting procedures. The increase of pestilence from rotting meat is being transported and dropped by these birds. Again, who is liable when other farm animals and wildlife becomes infected?

Could this farm be a potential threat to the already declining elk herds or badgers in the Elk Valley? This farm is a definite potential threat to the grizzly bear population in the Elk Valley. Sooner or later someone is going to get mauled and bears will be destroyed. Already, there have been grizzlies shot in self-defense by hunters right across from the mink farm. Who will be held accountable or liable? Whom do we sue, when our health or well-being is impacted because this farm was allowed to operate in the heart of grizzly country, in a major travel pattern that is well known, to all the locals and game wardens - **We can't raise anymore red flags.** Not to mention that a creek, that has fresh water licenses down-stream runs right through this mink farm (see well documented algae blooms downstream from North American Mink farms)

I have read your comment regarding the recent ban on grizzly bear hunting in BC, where you stated "not socially acceptable to the vast majority of British Columbians to hunt grizzly bears", but do the vast majority of British Columbians know that the Farm Practices Protection Act (normal farm practice) is allowing the composting of hundreds of mink carcasses, which in turn is baiting these beautiful majestic and potentially dangerous animals to the likelihood of being destroyed.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you

s.22

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Clayton Lamb <ctlamb@ualberta.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 2:30 PM
To: Caravetta, Joe ENV:EX; Shypitka.MLA, Tom LASS:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Chow, Emily FLNR:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Cc: Minister, ENV ENV:EX; Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX; s.22 Mike Sosnowski;
Subject: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Re: Grizzly Bear-Mink Farm Letter

Hi All,

I don't know s.22 but he is correct. We have collared a number of grizzly bears in this valley, including two within a few hundred meters of the the mink farm. The attraction of the mink farm is intense (see screenshot, colors are unique individuals), all animals that occupy the area visit the farm (middle of screen, hub of activity). This collar information is not publicly available, but can be used for conflict mitigation purposes if needed, please just let me know.

Cheers,
Clayton

--
Clayton Lamb, PhD Candidate
South Rockies Grizzly Bear Project
S.Boutin and S.Nielsen Labs
Biological Sciences, University of Alberta
e: ctlamb@ualberta.ca
p: 778-215-0334
t: [@ClaytonTLamb](https://twitter.com/ClaytonTLamb)
w: www.lamb-eco-research.ca

Page 010

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.79

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2018 3:29 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Picture of Trap
Attachments: trap.JPG

And the picture of trap

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 19, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Attached are photos of the inspection today.

- The outside pens are not used in the winter. When they are used, it is in the summer for 3-4 weeks when they are breaking down the litters. The pens are fully under the eaves and a curtain comes down to protect the mink from the elements. In picture 2 – they are in the process of removing all outside pens and have made permanent new pens inside the sheds for transferring mink.
- A single mink euthanasia tube is mounted in the hospital area for immediate use when necessary. The euthanasia protocols were reviewed for the gas cart, that holds 50-60 mink.
- Metacam was available in the hospital area, though it was expired, I was told they would get a new bottle immediately. There was only one mink in the hospital area and it was being euthanized, not treated.
- Traps are checked and emptied if necessary every morning. All the traps I saw were empty.

I just had a phone call with s.22 who indicates that the mink farm previously implicated does not protect the mink in the outside sheds from weather (rain), does not empty traps around the property for mink daily, and does not use the

carbon monoxide box appropriately (overcrowding and insufficient time) and that records for pain medication use would not line up with actual use (though I am not sure how we could verify that).

He has indicated that all this has been made public and that we are not doing our job by not banning fur farming.

Lynette could you go out again and take pictures of the outside shed rows to confirm protection from weather as well as verifying that pain relief medication has been used on the property and inspect periphery traps to see that they are empty. Also run through their SOP for euthanasia.

**Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer**

**Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474**

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 12:05 PM
To: Eileen Drever; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: s.22

I just had a phone call with s.22 who indicates that the mink farm previously implicated does not protect the mink in the outside sheds from weather (rain), does not empty traps around the property for mink daily, and does not use the carbon monoxide box appropriately (overcrowding and insufficient time) and that records for pain medication use would not line up with actual use (though I am not sure how we could verify that).

He has indicated that all this has been made public and that we are not doing our job by not banning fur farming.

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Eileen the Ministry is moving to adopting the Code of Practice for Mink Farming in its entirety under the Fur Farm Regulation.

Thanks
jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2018 3:35 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: SPCA mink complaint file # 267987

Met with s.79 this afternoon.

s.79

Issue: No pain meds, not treating wounds

The hospital area had medical treatment records and medication available on site. Only one mink was in the area at the time – being treated for a bone in the mouth. All other mink that have injuries at this time of year are euthanized because they don't keep injured mink when it's coming up to breeding season.

Issue: Other complaints about burying carcasses after pelting to FLNRO

There is a covered composting shed on site. Carcasses are mixed with horse manure, lime and shavings. The compost is then spread on nearby fields.

Issue: Complaint about carbon monoxide to kill them, was explained as preferred in the code but should follow up that they are using gas not car exhaust.

Kill box on site with CO canisters.

The farm was clean, cages were being pressured washed and being readied for the breeding season. Most cages observed had only one mink per with clean food.

I did not observe any issues with the farm.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 11:13 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: SPCA mink complaint file # 267987

Yes MoE I guess not FLNRO. Yes surprised they don't go for composting, maybe it is the compost that is buried, that would be acceptable.

You could unofficially explore that so we can report to Eileen on that too.

All we really need is to make sure they are following their approved health management program and have the drugs on site.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: SPCA mink complaint file # 267987

Ok. I'll call s.7 tomorrow after we talk.

How they dispose of the carcasses is for MOE ? s.79 has that big compost shed on his other property.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 11:05 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: SPCA mink complaint file # 267987

This is from a s.22 that has requested to remain anonymous.
Eileen Drever needs us to visit and report back, but is not looking at this as a really serious complaint, like s.79 was.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:58 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: SPCA mink complaint file # 267987

That is the s.79 – bit surprised if they are not treating wounds, doesn't sound like s.79

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:53 AM

To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Subject: SPCA mink complaint file # 267987

s.79

No pain meds, not treating wounds

Other complaints about burying carcasses after pelting to FLNRO

Complaint about carbon monoxide to kill them, was explained as preferred in the code but should follow up that they are using gas not car exhaust.

This will take a visit to determine that they are following their health program.

Will be up to chat.

Jane

Jane Pritchard

Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch

Chief Veterinary Officer

(604)556-3013

1767 Angus Campbell Rd,

Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 1:01 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: q elisa contact

This is for mink :-)

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 1, 2018, at 12:17 PM, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Unless Erin or Roger have other issues, I'm good with sending a note out

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<image001.jpg>

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 12:16 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: q elisa contact

We are going to be discontinuing the current mink testing for AD and suggesting the producers replace it with a test they can do them selves on farm.

Do you think we need a meeting for everyone, are there other things to talk about? Or can this just be an information note sent to them?

jane

From: Yemen, Roberta AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 12:11 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX; Roddick, Tracy AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: q elisa contact

The lateral flow test is pretty straight forward and could be done at the farm or at the lab. It will provide the ranchers with the same kind of result as the CIEP so no confusion over interpreting ELISA results. Given that and the simplicity of the test vs ELISA, this test would be my choice to replace the CIEP.

Roberta

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: January-30-18 4:43 PM
To: Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX; Roddick, Tracy AGRI:EX; Yemen, Roberta AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: q elisa contact

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 4:41 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: q elisa contact

s.79

I also attached the lateral flow dip stick instructions. I run some in house for shipments but most are run on farm. Thanks s.79

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Had a call from Patricia Burley, a CO. Her and a biologist went to ^{s.79} (I guess he was more than happy to show them around the entire farm).

I asked her to send us an email with all her findings and recommendations regarding attractants. But a couple things she wanted clarification on:

How often do they clean out the manure under the cages? As far as I know, it is usually done about twice a year. ^{s.79} told he had not done it in a year.

Composting – can they compost carcasses on the property? I said some send to render, some compost on the property, so that is not unusual. And yes, the compost is sold to other farmers (least in the valley it is, I believe ^{s.79} told me that).

She said his shed perimeter fencing is completely down on two sides. He certainly did not tell me this on the phone.

^{s.79} told her I said they were coming – which I didn't so she wasn't sure if anything was hid, in her words.

Lynette Hare
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and Data Officer

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 3:08 PM
To: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE: s.79
Attachments: s.79

I have been to his farm twice. It is a new farm and I s.22,s.79
I trust he is sincerely trying to do everything he can to address these neighbors concerns.

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/8_2015

http://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/mink_code_of_practice.pdf

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

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Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 2:38 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Lynette,

Could you please supply us with a copy of their permit or operating licence- anything that lists their operating requirements and a copy of the Mink Code of Practice so we understand what their requirements are as mink farming is new to us out here?

Thanks,
Frank

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 2:56 PM
To: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

I can confirm the farm is licensed and has complied with the Fur Farm Regulations and the Mink Code of Practice.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 1:44 PM
To: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Lynette,

Maybe you can direct us on this, is the mink farm permitted under the Fur Farm Regulation under the Animal Health Act and are their operations conducted under this regulation? Can we obtain a copy of the permit or approval for this operation and any conditions required of the operators?

Thanks,
Frank

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 2:39 PM
To: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: Re: s.79

Frank,
Pls include Lynette on this issue.

From: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 1:37 PM
To: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Jane,

Maybe you can direct us on this, is the mink farm permitted under the Fur Farm Regulation under the Animal Health Act and are their operations conducted under this regulation?

Thanks,
Frank

From: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 2:16 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Cc: Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

Hi Jane and Helen,

Do either of you have the mink farm permit requirements? Is there a specific inspection form we should be following? My understanding is that we will be inspecting under the WLA 33.1(2) Attract dangerous wildlife to land or premises.

Thank you,

Patricia Burley
Conservation Officer
East Kootenay Zone | Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Box 2877, Fernie, BC, V0B1M0
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/kootenay/eco/access.htm>
Phone: (250) 423-4264, Fax: (250) 423-9217
RAPP 1-877-952-7277

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 1:53 PM
To: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

FYI

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Pictures of farm at the pre-licensing visit -

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE:s.79

The photo is of GPS collar locations and I am not allowed to send. But I will link you with the local wildlife manager (Holger) and CO Sergeant (Denny). Gentlemen, Jane is the Chief Veterinary Officer from MAg. Mink farming is not exactly scentless and those scents will attract animals esp bears at this time of year....price of the business I think.

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 12:10 PM
To: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

His neighbours hate him s.22 he has a great operation, no one feeds mink to mink, composted carcasses are not smelly in colder months and I thought his went to rendering, his fencing is amazing, and it is electrified. I am really not sure that a mink operation would attract a grizzly bear any more or less than a sheep operation.

His feed is all kept frozen in a lovely new building with re Fridgeration rooms.

We will look into this, but he is a licensed mink farmer and has a right to farm. He works diligently to protect the mink and have a clean operation.
Can you share the photos??

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Teske, Irene FLNR:EX; Krebs, John A FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Hi Jane,
This is a very bad situation with the mink farm in the s.79 Both for wildlife safety as well and perhaps more importantly for human safety. Can you approve your local Ag staff accompanying the COS for an inspection pls?
Helen

From: Teske, Irene FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 9:29 AM
To: Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; Krebs, John A FLNR:EX; Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX
Cc: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

Hi everyone

Please review Patricia's email and maps below. The grizzly bear location map is confidential so please do not forward. The telemetry locations are concentrated on the mink farm. This mink farm was approved by Ministry of Agriculture in 2013. We did not have an opportunity to comment prior to approval.

Helen, do you know who in the Ministry of Ag we can contact regarding this issue? I'm thinking it would be good if Ministry of Ag plus COS conducted a site inspection on this farm.

Thanks

Irene

Irene E. Teske, RPBio
Wildlife biologist
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development
205 Industrial Road G
Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G5
250-489-8551 office

From: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 9:50 AM
To: Teske, Irene FLNR:EX
Cc: Chretien, Denny ENV:EX; Gordon, Ryan ENV:EX; deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Subject: FW:s.79

Hi Irene,

Below is the email I was talking to you about today regarding the concerns with the mink farm north of

s.79 Our complainant would like to stay anonymous. He heard second hand that the mink farm owner does not feed the dead minks to the other minks because they are so disease infested and he does not want it to spread that to the other minks. Supposedly he composts the dead minks that have a horrible stink that you can smell from s.79

We are not sure if the bears have gotten into this compost or what it looks like but it would definitely be an attract for them. CO Deboon was there last week and walked the property line where he saw packed down trails of different sized grizzly tracks around the area. Clayton Lamb sent the below photos and data information to us last week to show that the grizzly bears that are collared are definitely visiting this area.

I am willing to do an inspection on the facility, but I need to know what exactly to look for. I would like to go with another CO or Biologist as the s.22 He
s.22

Thank you,

Patricia Burley
Conservation Officer
East Kootenay Zone | Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Box 2877, Fernie, BC, V0B1M0
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/kootenay/eco/access.htm>
Phone: (250) 423-4264, Fax: (250) 423-9217
RAPP 1-877-952-7277

From: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Gordon, Ryan ENV:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Cc: Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: Mink farm

Trish and Ryan,

Please have a look at s.79 -grizzly bears at These bears appear to be going to the mink farm- potential attractants?can give you some background on the farm and owner too.

The mink farm could probably use a good inspection to see if they are in compliance before the bears go to bed and while there is lots of tracks to see where they are going and getting into. Clayton has collars in the area and collared bears may be on site.

You may also want to talk to Irene Teske to find out about any previous issues with the mink ranch.

s.22

Thanks,
Frank
s.79

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 23, 2017 12:03 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: s.79 ; Pawlik, Michael AGRI:EX
Subject: Farm inspection Nov 23, 2017

Dr. Pawlik and myself re-visited the farm and can confirm all outstanding items have been completed.

Treatment records and cards were available and mink were in separate sections . All other pens had nest boxes and/or reduced in numbers according to code and the sheds were clean and dry.

Thank you.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 12:39 PM
To: s.79
Cc: Pawlik, Michael AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Nov 23
Attachments: s.79 Licensing Inspection October 13, 2017.docx

Hi s.79 as agreed last week, Dr. Pawlik and myself will be at the farm Thursday at 10 am. Please ensure these items are completed as outlined in my letter of October 16th.

- 1) Treat sick and injured mink according to your Health Management Plan or euthanize
 - Treatment records – required.
 - Treatment cards – required.
 - Treated mink, returned escapees and recovered mink are mixed – separate into sections in the shed row.
- 2) Reduce the number of mink in pens as per the pen density requirements in Table 3 of the Code of Practice and install a hammock/shelf for all pens with multiple mink.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2017 8:45 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Thanks. His neighbours are not nice.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2017 8:42 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Spoke to s.79

- Yes, he has noticed more bears and attributes this to the bear hunt being cancelled.
- He rotated his carcass pile in mid-October and says it was fully composted.
- He skinned 400 mink and froze most of them, he has never spread the compost or manure on the fields.
- He has an elk fence (not required by us) and it is not electrified.
- The fence has been compromised because the bears dig under it.
- His mink are disease-free.
- His neighbors have piles of elk guts, loose chickens and throw cow carcasses in the field – which he maintains is as much a bear-attractant as his mink smell.

I don't think his practices have changed any from the last time we were there.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

Can you give s.79 a call and get his side of the story please. Specifically about composting carcasses and his impression of grizzly bear activity this year compared to other years.

Thanks
Jane

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

The photo is of GPS collar locations and I am not allowed to send. But I will link you with the local wildlife manager (Holger) and CO Sergeant (Denny). Gentlemen, Jane is the Chief Veterinary Officer from MAG. Mink farming is not exactly scentless and those scents will attract animals esp bears at this time of year....price of the business I think.

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Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 12:10 PM
To: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

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operation, no one feeds mink to mink, composted carcasses are not smelly in colder months and I thought his went to rendering, his fencing is amazing, and it is electrified. I am really not sure that a mink operation would attract a grizzly bear any more or less than a sheep operation.

His feed is all kept frozen in a lovely new building with refrigeration rooms.

We will look into this, but he is a licensed mink farmer and has a right to farm. He works diligently to protect the mink and have a clean operation.
Can you share the photos??

From: Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX; Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Teske, Irene FLNR:EX; Krebs, John A FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Hi Jane,
This is a very bad situation with the mink farm in the Elk Valley that opened a few years ago. Both for wildlife safety as well and perhaps more importantly for human safety. Can you approve your local Ag staff accompanying the COS for an inspection pls?
Helen

From: Teske, Irene FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 9:29 AM
To: Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX; Krebs, John A FLNR:EX; Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX
Cc: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

Hi everyone

Please review Patricia's email and maps below. The grizzly bear location map is confidential so please do not forward. The telemetry locations are concentrated on the mink farm. This mink farm was approved by Ministry of Agriculture in 2013. We did not have an opportunity to comment prior to approval.

Helen, do you know who in the Ministry of Ag we can contact regarding this issue? I'm thinking it would be good if Ministry of Ag plus COS conducted a site inspection on this farm.

Thanks

Irene

*Irene E. Teske, RPBio
Wildlife biologist
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and
Rural Development
205 Industrial Road G
Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G5
250-489-8551 office*

From: Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2017 9:50 AM
To: Teske, Irene FLNR:EX
Cc: Chretien, Denny ENV:EX; Gordon, Ryan ENV:EX; deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

Hi Irene,

Below is the email I was talking to you about today regarding the concerns with the mink farm^{s.79}

^{s.79} Our complainant would like to stay anonymous. He heard second hand that the mink farm owner does not feed the dead minks to the other minks because they are so disease infested and he does not want it to spread that to the other minks. Supposedly he composts the dead minks that have a horrible stink that you can smell from Hwy 43. We are not sure if the bears have gotten into this compost or what it looks like but it would definitely be an attract for them. CO Deboon was there last week and walked the property line where he saw packed down trails of different sized grizzly tracks around the area. Clayton Lamb sent the below photos and data information to us last week to show that the grizzly bears that are collared are definitely visiting this area.

I am willing to do an inspection on the facility, but I need to know what exactly to look for. I would like to go with another CO or Biologist as the mink farm owner,^{s.22}

^{s.22}

Thank you,

Patricia Burley
Conservation Officer
East Kootenay Zone | Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Box 2877, Fernie, BC, V0B1M0
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/kootenay/eco/access.htm>
Phone: (250) 423-4264, Fax: (250) 423-9217
RAPP 1-877-952-7277

From: deBoon, Frank A ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Gordon, Ryan ENV:EX; Burley, Patricia ENV:EX
Cc: Chretien, Denny ENV:EX
Subject: Mink farm

Trish and Ryan,

Please have a look at s.79 -grizzly bears at These bears appear to be going to the mink farm- potential attractants?can give you some background on the farm and owner too.

The mink farm could probably use a good inspection to see if they are in compliance before the bears go to bed and while there is lots of tracks to see where they are going and getting into. Clayton has collars in the area and collared bears may be on site.

You may also want to talk to Irene Teske to find out about any previous issues with the mink ranch.

s.22

Thanks,
Frank
s.79

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 10:37 AM
To: s.79
Subject: RE: Fur Petition

Good to hear, thanks^{s.79}

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Fur Petition

Thank you Lynette. Yes! This particular petition I have not heard about, but I'm aware that Ontario has been ramping up with issues such as these... There has also been many farm protests in the province recently. I appreciate the notice though. Thank you.

BTW. I appreciate the ministry helping us out with a permit for the^{s.79} . The mink have all been raised in pairs there and have been doing well. We plan to harvest those mink there on the last few days of November or the first days of December (depending when they're prime). It helped us out tremendously because we got to break down cage sizes on both of our existing farms, and therefore I can see significant signs of improvement regarding health and quality throughout the herd. Thanks a lot.

s.79

On Oct 17, 2017, at 09:41, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning,

We have received the following information regarding an online petition we thought would be worthwhile to pass on to you if you are not already aware of it.

**Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer**

**Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474**

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<image002.jpg>

The ethics of animal farming, here is the contents of an on-line petition in Ontario.

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Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 1:03 PM
To: s.79
Subject: RE: Fur Petition

Hi s.79

The neighbor finally called me back, and it was very reasonable – I was pleasantly surprised. She was very reassured that we inspect and license fur farms. I went through each of her issues and gave her an explanation that she seemed to be satisfied with. I don't believe it will go any further.

Thanks.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 12:33 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Fur Petition

Hi Lynette,

Thanks for passing it on I had not heard of this yet I will let the other ranchers know. I always wonder where these people get their misinformation from. How did it go when you talked to my neighbor a couple of weeks ago?

Thanks s.79

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX [<mailto:Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 10:53 AM

To: s.22,s.79

Subject: Fur Petition

Good Morning,

We have received the following information regarding an online petition we thought would be worthwhile to pass on to you if you are not already aware of it.

**Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer**

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



The ethics of animal farming, here is the contents of an on-line petition in Ontario.

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Ministry of
Agriculture

October 16, 2017

s.79

Email: s.22,s.79

RE: **October 13, 2017 Farm Inspection at** ^{s.79}
Lynette Hare, Compliance Officer
Dr. Michael Pawlik, Veterinary Specialist
Dr. Jane Pritchard, Executive Director

s.79

On September 25 there were a number of non-compliance items we requested you to complete prior to our subsequent visit on October 13. The following require immediate rectification for your farm to maintain a current license:

- 1) Treat sick and injured mink according to your Health Management Plan or euthanize
 - Treatment records – required.
 - Treatment cards – required.
 - Treated mink, returned escapees and recovered mink are mixed – separate into sections in the shed row.
- 2) Reduce the number of mink in pens as per the pen density requirements in Table 3 of the Code of Practice and install a hammock/shelf for all pens with multiple mink.

~~We will re-visit in mid-November and trust you will have completed the above to avoid suspension of your license.~~

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations, Compliance
And Data Officer

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 11:57 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.79 - hospital pen

I told^{s.79} I would be back mid-November, I said a couple weeks, but he said there would still be multiple mink in the cages and it would not be thinned out for a month. There was some improvement since Michael and I were there, but it seems^{s.79} just solves one problem and another is created.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 3:01 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79 - hospital pen

What I told^{s.79}

1. There were no treatment records – correct this
2. There were no treatment cards – correct this
3. There is a mix of treated mink, with returned escapees and recovered animals – need to be able to tell who is who and would be better if they were separated into section in the shed row. Correct this.
4. Not sure what you and Michael thought about 2 weeks again or longer to go back?

Jane

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 10:19 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79 Mink Farm complaint

Makes sense. In reality there is not an agricultural area that would not have smells and dust. They should have investigated what a mink farm was before buyin.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 10:13 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79 Mink Farm complaint

I have a message in to talk to the complainant, but I did talk to s.79 the owner:

- Two mink did escape, he recaptured them and fixed the fence. He had some vandalism on his property.
- In the winter he had 5,000 mink – the summer he has 30,000. He will be pelting in October/November. This contributes to the extra noise from the mink (one of her complaints)
- The smell – when it is extra hot in the day, and cools at night – the smell will be stronger (it's been a long hot summer)
- They store the manure in the summer in the shed, they just spread the manure on the fields (again, strong smell is seasonal). They are back to storing the manure.
- Dust complaint – he believes that is more to do with the corn crop than the mink.
- They are in the ALR with urban development right beside the farm.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:22 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE s.79 Fur Farm

We just started!!

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79 Fur Farm

That's s.79 farm, and it is a beautiful farm so I'm surprised, but will call him tomorrow.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: AGRI PAHB AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:12 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: s.79

Hello Lynette,

Please see the email below sent to our PAHB inbox. The first part is more of City of Chilliwack/GVRD issue but the mink escaping and them wanting an inspection we thought might be more of a regulatory/ licensing issue. Please advise.

Kind Regards,
Gen Rottluff
Accessioning Clerk
Plant & Animal Health Branch
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture
1767 Angus Campbell Rd
Abbotsford B.C.
Tel: 604-556-3003
www.gov.bc.ca/agriculture

From: s.22

Sent: Sunday, October 1, 2017 12:36 PM

To: AGRI PAHB AGRI:EX

Subject: s.79

Good afternoon,

I wonder if you could tell me more about what fur farms - specifically mink farms - are required to do in order to mitigate nuisances to neighbouring residential properties. We've been having more issues over the past few months than ever before.

I have lived in close proximity to what I have been told is a mink farm for about 18 months. I think the operation's address is s.79

Before we bought our home, we understood from the neighbourhood that the farm released smell, usually in the early morning or late evening; I presume so it is likely to offend the least amount of people. It has been bearable thus far, but for the past few months the smell has become quite offensive - strong, different than usual, more frequent, and long lasting. It has really embedded itself in our home, specifically our master bedroom, which is above the bushes and tree line and so has no impediment to dust and smell.

We notice that we suffer a lot more dirt and dust in our home than anywhere else we have lived and feel certain it is because of the farming operation. Again, much worse lately than usual.

Twice this summer, minks escaped the farm and were frolicking in our neighbours' backyards. One neighbour was able to get in touch with the farm, and they came over to trap the mink to take them back. The mink are also much easier to hear lately - their noises are noticeable most of the day and night.

The changes outlined above that we've easily noticed makes me wonder if their standards have slipped or if regulations are no longer being followed.

Is it possible to have an inspection carried out to ensure that proper mitigation techniques are being used by the farm in order to decrease the nuisances described above? I sometimes worry about

what these nuisances could be doing to our health, over time, and certainly loose animals in our backyards is a safety concern. Other neighbours have shared these same concerns and interest.

Thanks in advance for any information you can share.

s.22

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pawlik, Michael AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 12:42 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: DRAFT s.79 Licensing Inspection September 25, 2017
Attachments: s.79 Licensing Inspection September 25 2017.docx

Hey Lynette!

I don't know what the "approved format is" for these letters but I modified it a bit to get rid of some redundancies and to provide some explanation what some of these findings mean (like the tearing and clouding of the eyes suggestive of high ammonia levels; and the swollen digits suggestive of bacterial infection).

The suggestions are good and interrelated. Less crowding means they can monitor the ferrets better for injuries and illness. Less waste and less crowding also means less injury and illness. The guy seems to be creating problems through non-compliance which he then uses as excuses :/

Hope all is well!

Michael

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Pawlik, Michael AGRI:EX
Subject: DRAFT s.79 Licensing Inspection September 25, 2017

I have prepared a draft for s.79 . please take a look and feel free to give any additions or feedback.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Eileen Drever
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink

s.79 was inspected today and found to be way out of compliance with the regulations in areas of crowding, hygiene and following his approved health plan. He has been informed of the violations and given a week to be in full compliance. Animals with medical issues were pointed out by s.79
s.79 and they are to be addressed immediately.

We will be following up.

s.79 had assured us in the spring that he was closing this location as it was not profitable. If he is to continue at this location we will be working very closely with him.

Thank you for sharing this with me. I will let you know how this progresses.

Jane Pritchard.

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:10 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink Farm Summary

In addition to Mike's notes, many of the water nipples were dripping and contributing to the standing water and smell. Many of the water bowls are green and slimy. ^{s.79} is not treating any of the mink because he says he is just going to kill the ones that are injured (this rationale did not make sense since there were so many of them still in the cages). Many cages that did have appropriate numbers and sizes, had no shavings in the nest boxes.

He said he was in the process of moving the mink from the smaller cages or over-crowded cages to the cages in the back row – but, he said it was too hot to move them.

I told him I will summarize what needs to be done and email it to him, then go out again in the next couple weeks to see if it has been done.

We did not go through every shed, but got a pretty good idea of the condition of most of the farm.

From: Pawlik, Michael AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:58 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink Farm Summary

Hey Lynette!

So here's the detailed notes and summary of what I saw on my walk through.

Shed 1; Row 1 (Half):

- Mild accumulation of dried old food on the wire cages in addition to the fresh food
- Many of the water dishes were dirty with accumulation of feed and other debris; Translucent film on the water surface
- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- Few mink with increased tear production and wet fur around the eyes (conjunctivitis)
- One of the mink was minimally responsive; Squinting eyes
- Several mink had one or multiple digits that were noticeably swollen at the tips; affected digits were missing claws with sanguineous discharge
- One mink had mild to moderate facial swelling around the maxillary lip, nose and around the lower eye lid
- End cage was smaller than standard acceptable size and contained 2 mink
- No enrichment in any of the cages

Shed 2; Row 1 (Half):

- Mild accumulation of dried old food on the wire cages in addition to the fresh food
- Many of the water dishes were dirty with accumulation of feed and other debris; Translucent film on the water surface
- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- One mink with multiple digits that were noticeably swollen at the tips; affected digits were missing claws with sanguineous discharge

- One mink was curled in the middle of the cage and minimally responsive; no obvious disease (face was hidden from view); cage mates were very active
- End cage was smaller than standard acceptable size and contained 2 mink
- No enrichment in any of the cages

Shed 3; Row 1 (Half):

- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- Mild to moderate accumulation of feces within the corners of some of the cages
- End cage was smaller than standard acceptable size and contained 2 mink
- No enrichment in any of the cages

Shed 4; Row 1 (Full):

- End cage was smaller than standard acceptable size and contained 2 mink
- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- Mild to moderate accumulation of feces within the corners of some of the cages
- Several mink had tails with excessive grooming or sores on the tail tips
- Several mink had increased tear production and wet fur around the eyes; One mink had clouding of the corneas with excessive tear production (keratoconjunctivitis)
- One mink had conjunctivitis with prolapse of the third eyelid
- No enrichment in any of the cages

Shed 4; Row 2:

- Many instances where four mink were in a cage with approximately 300 sq inch of floor space and no additional shelf/platform

SUMMARY

- There were a number of overcrowded cages; the cages at the end of the row were below the standard size and still contained 2 mink
- Most of the cages examined did not have enrichment
- The water bowls were frequently dirty with accumulation of feed material/debris and the formation of a cloudy film on the water surface; some water bowls were leaking and forming puddles on the ground
- There was mild build-up of dry old feed material on many of the cages
- There was mild build-up of feces within the corners of a few of the cages
- There was a moderate to strong smell of ammonia in most of the sheds with evidence of excessive tear production (conjunctivitis) and occasional clouding of the corneas (keratitis)
- Some of the mink had tail tips that were excessively groomed or had sores
- Some of the mink were missing one or multiple claws which were associated with noticeably swollen digits with sanguineous exudation
- One of the mink had mild facial swelling around the snout
- A couple of the mink were dull and/or minimally responsive

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pawlik, Michael AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 2:58 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink Farm Summary

Hey Lynette!

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- Mild accumulation of dried old food on the wire cages in addition to the fresh food
- Many of the water dishes were dirty with accumulation of feed and other debris; Translucent film on the water surface
- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- One mink with multiple digits that were noticeably swollen at the tips; affected digits were missing claws with sanguineous discharge
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- No enrichment in any of the cages

Shed 3; Row 1 (Half):

- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- Mild to moderate accumulation of feces within the corners of some of the cages
- End cage was smaller than standard acceptable size and contained 2 mink
- No enrichment in any of the cages

Shed 4; Row 1 (Full):

- End cage was smaller than standard acceptable size and contained 2 mink
- Moderate to strong smell of ammonia
- Build-up of feces beneath the cages
- Mild to moderate accumulation of feces within the corners of some of the cages
- Several mink had tails with excessive grooming or sores on the tail tips

- Several mink had increased tear production and wet fur around the eyes; One mink had clouding of the corneas with excessive tear production (keratoconjunctivitis)
- One mink had conjunctivitis with prolapse of the third eyelid
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Shed 4; Row 2:

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SUMMARY

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- A couple of the mink were dull and/or minimally responsive

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:26 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Mink complaint SPCA

Elieen said she was not going to send anyone out, but left it with you.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:25 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink complaint SPCA

On September 21st a meter reader called the SPCA with the following complaint:

Property s.79

- Strong ammonia and feces smell
- Over-crowded cages
- Mink fighting
- One mink observed with a gash
- Some showing atypical behaviour, chewing cage
- One with a face ripped open
- Piled up feces under cages

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 1:51 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re:s.79

Hi Lynette. We are just reviewing our options at the moment. Once we get further along, I'll be in contact with you.
Thanks.

s.79

On Jun 7, 2017, at 13:49, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi ^{s.7}₉ hope everything is going well for you.

I understand from Jane^{s.79} has built a mink farm in Ft. Langley and that you were going to put mink on the location?

We do not have any record of a ^{s.79} site. If this is the case, please be sure to complete the following requirements prior to populating a new site:

1. Fur Farm Application Form
2. Health Management Plan including the veterinarian you will be using.
3. Written verification that you have received permission from the municipality to operate a fur farm on that particular premise.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

www.gov.bc.ca/agriservicebc

<image003.jpg>

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 9:04 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

All of the roofs have been taken off the sheds except two. The cages are still in rows, so makes me wonder if he plans on rebuilding or salvaging the cages for the future. I guess time will tell.

s.79 – just keeps losing or forgetting to get in his renewal. Said he'll do it asap. I did stop to pick it up but he was out getting feed.

Lynette Hare
Compliance, Operations
and Data Officer

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

www.gov.bc.ca/agriservicebc



Final Report AHC Case: 17-4872

Last Updated: 10/04/17 10:43 AM

Pathologist: Glenna McGregor

Received Date: 09/27/17

Collected Date: 09/27/17

Client Ref No:

Veterinarian: Dr. Daniel McDermid

Clinic: Greenbelt Veterinary Serv

Phone: (604) 792-1501

Fax: (604) 792-1173

s.79

Animal Data

Species: Mink

Breed:

Sex: M

Age: 8 Months

Animal ID:

Phone:

Premise ID:

Case History

Submitted 2 mink for post mortem examination.

History: Respiratory problems. Loss of 6 per day with resp. problems.

Presenting complaint: sudden death. Vaccinated: yes. Euthanized: no.

in group: 30,000.

***All histories are copied verbatim from the submission form**

Final Diagnosis

Final diagnosis:

Hemorrhagic pneumonia, severe

Lymphocytic interstitial nephritis, severe

Comments:

Both of these mink had a severe hemorrhagic pneumonia. In one of these mink this was caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and in the other this was caused by *Escherichia coli*. Both are commonly reported causes of hemorrhagic pneumonia in mink. Corresponding to the different agents involved in each of the mink there were subtle differences in the microscopic lung lesions between the two mink, confirming that there are two bacterial species causing disease on this farm. Sensitivity results are attached.

The presence of two bacterial species causing cases of pneumonia on one farm may be suggestive of some underlying factor predisposing these mink to bacterial lung infection. Unfortunately, the predisposing factors for hemorrhagic pneumonia are poorly defined in mink. There is some association between *E. coli* hemorrhagic pneumonia and influenza infection. The histologic lesions in these mink are not particularly suggestive of underlying influenza infection; however, there is extensive lung damage due to the bacterial pneumonia that might mask an influenza lesion, so to investigate this further influenza PCR is pending.

Both mink had a severe lymphocytic interstitial nephritis. The most likely etiology for this is Aleutian Disease Virus (ADV). PCR for ADV is pending.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call (604-556-3003) or email (Glenna.McGregor@gov.bc.ca).

Addendum Oct. 3, 2017: Aleutian Disease Virus (ADV) PCR was positive, confirming Aleutian disease as the cause of the inflammation in the kidneys. Influenza PCR was negative.

Necropsy

Received two mink in a mildly autolyzed state of post-mortem preservation. They were in good body condition weighing 1.8 and 2 kg. In both mink there was extensive dark purple discoloration and consolidation affecting more than 80% of the lung parenchyma, particularly severely in the cranioventral lung lobes.

In both mink the kidneys were bilaterally mildly pale and roughened with multiple pinpoint white foci throughout the cortex.

Histopathology

There is mild generalized autolysis.

The following tissues were examined and appear histologically normal: **trachea, diaphragm, tongue, skeletal muscle, intestine, pancreas, and brain.**

Heart: the pericardium is lined by plump chains of mesothelial cells (reactive), multifocally expanded by hemorrhage and infiltrated by small numbers of lymphocytes and plasma cells.

Kidney: bilaterally in both mink abundant lymphocytes and plasma cells infiltrate the renal cortical interstitium surrounding and separating renal tubules. Renal tubules are multifocally mildly ectatic and lined by attenuated, degenerating or regenerating tubular epithelial cells. These tubules frequently contain homogeneous eosinophilic material (proteinuria) and/or hyaline casts or less commonly granular or cellular casts and occasionally small amounts of deeply basophilic granular material (mineral).

Lung: sections are pooled for histologic analysis. There appear to be two distinct patterns of pneumonia. Likely reflecting a difference between the two examined mink. In pattern 1 alveoli are diffusely filled with hemorrhage, pale eosinophilic material (edema), large numbers of viable and degenerate neutrophils mixed with fewer lymphocytes, plasma cells and macrophages and extremely numerous small bacterial rods located both intracellularly and extracellularly. There is extensive alveolar septal necrosis. In pattern 2 alveoli are filled with edema and moderate amounts of hemorrhage and myriad small bacterial rods often mixed with small numbers of viable and degenerate neutrophils and necrotic cellular and nuclear debris. There is frequent alveolar septal necrosis. Blood vessels are frequently cuffed by large numbers of small bacterial rods and cuffed and often transmurally infiltrated by large numbers of degenerate neutrophils and necrotic cellular and nuclear debris.

Spleen: there is a locally extensive area of lytic necrosis characterized by loss of normal splenic architecture and replacement by an aggregate of necrotic cellular and nuclear debris, fibrin and a few scattered degenerate neutrophils. There are large numbers of scattered megakaryocytes (extramedullary thrombopoiesis, normal in young animals).

Liver: portal triads are diffusely infiltrated by small to moderate numbers of plasma cells and fewer lymphocytes. Bile ducts frequently contain small amounts of orange-yellow material (bile stasis).

Bacteriology

Aerobic Culture - Prod Resulted by: Erin Zabek Verified by: Hughes, Giselle on 09/28/17 @ 11:55 AM

Specimen	ID	Isolate	Result	Level
Lung	A	Pseudomonas aeruginosa	Positive	4+
Lung	B	E.coli (haemolytic)	Positive	4+
Lung	B	Proteus sp.	Positive	
Kidney		E.coli (haemolytic)	Positive	3+
Spleen		E.coli (haemolytic)	Positive	3+
Spleen		Pseudomonas aeruginosa	Positive	3+
Liver		E.coli (haemolytic)	Positive	4+

GNEG Resulted by: Hughes, Giselle Verified by: Roberta Yemen on 09/29/17 @ 1:13 PM

	Organism	
Antibiotics	Pseudomonas aeruginosa	E.coli (non-haemolytic)
	A	
Enrofloxacin	r	s
Ceftiofur	r	s
Gentamicin	s	s
Neomycin	s	s
Ampicillin-Sulbactam	r	r
Sulphamethoxazole/Trimethoprim	r	r
Tetracycline	r	r
Florfenicol	r	s

Molecular Diagnostics

Aleutian Disease virus Resulted by: Danielle Lewis Verified by: Tomy Joseph on 09/29/17 @ 3:52 PM

Specimen	ID	Test	Result
Tissue	Ig, Iv, kd, sp	Aleutian Disease virus	Positive

Test validation in progress.

Influenza Virus-Consensus Resulted by: A Scouras Verified by: Tomy Joseph on 10/03/17 @ 10:19 AM

Specimen	ID	Test	Result
Tissue	Ig, Iv, kd, sp	Influenza Virus-Consensus	Negative



Glenna McGregor
BSc, DVM, MVetSc, DACVP

These results relate only to the animals or items tested.

This report shall not be reproduced except in full, without the written approval of the laboratory.

The above material is intended only for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed, as it may contain confidential or personal information that is subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This material must not be distributed, copied or disclosed to other unauthorized persons. If you have received the transmission in error, please contact the sender immediately by telephone.

END OF REPORT

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Not to bother you Jane, but just so you are aware. I made it very clear to s.79 that he is to not stock his sheds until he submits a new application and has a pre-inspection (many of his sheds collapsed under the snow – which reaffirms what we did). Anyways, no sooner do I get back to the office and s.79 calls me to say s.79 just called him to order 500 females for the spring because he passed inspection ☹. s.79 did not read my last email yet. He said he will not sell any females to s.79 until he gets confirmation from my me in writing that he is relicensed.

I have no doubts s.79 will try to do another end-run around us.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 11:41 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Thanks again Lynette,

All the best in 2017

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
Director, Rancher Relations Canada

North American Fur Auctions Inc.
65 Skyway Avenue
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M9W 6C7

T: 416.213.2489

C : 416.803.8643

w_booth@nafa.ca

www.nafa.ca

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX [mailto:Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 2:24 PM
To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX <Erin.Zabek@gov.bc.ca>; Doug Lawson <dlawson@nafa.ca>; s.22,s.79
s.22,s.79

I have completed an inspection and have given the farm a temporary permit to March 31, 2017. This permit is restricted to the sale of pelts only.

He indicated he may want to start up again next year. His application will be treated as a new farm and as such will require a pre-inspection prior to stocking sheds with breeding stock.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 5:09 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX; Doug Lawson; s.79
s.22,s.79

Good morning Lynette,

Thank you for the follow up. Please let me know how your inspection goes and if you have any concerns. Once the permit is issued we have asked^{s.79} to deliver the green skins to Cloverdale Cold Storage in Surrey.^{s.79}
s.79 will oversee the movement of these goods. You can contact^{s.79} at the email above or through his cell at
s.22

Happy New Year

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
Director, Rancher Relations Canada

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C : 416.803.8643
w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX [<mailto:Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2016 4:49 PM
To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX <Erin.Zabek@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: s.79

Hi Wayne:

I have spoken with^{s.79} He has depopulated all mink now. I will be doing a final inspection on Friday, December 30th and issuing him a Temporary Permit to the end of March 31st, 2017. This should give enough time to process and ship the pelts as needed.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]

Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:37 PM

To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Subject: RE:s.79

Thank you

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)

Director, Rancher Relations Canada

North American Fur Auctions Inc.

65 Skyway Avenue

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

M9W 6C7

T: 416.213.2489

C : 416.803.8643

w_booth@nafa.ca

www.nafa.ca

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 3:35 PM

To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>

Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE:s.79

Yes, Lynette Hare will contact you when the temporary license for shipping is put in place.

From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]

Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:34 PM

To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: s.79

Thank you for the clarification. Please disregard my phone message, upon further reading I understand completely your position and support this. NAFA will do its part to communicate this with the farmer to market the goods. Would you be able to contact myself when the temporary license has been issued so that we can move ahead with marketing?

Best regards,

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
Director, Rancher Relations Canada

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C : 416.803.8643
w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 2:25 PM
To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE:s.79

Currently s.79 is operating without a fur farm license within the province. The agreement in place, which he is fully aware of, is that once he has depopulated his farm and we have carried out an inspection to do confirm this, he will be granted a temporary license so that he can sell the pelts.

This was done so that the removal of the license was not unduly punitive and that he could depopulate when the pelts were of value.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Jane Pritchard

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 10:41 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: s.22,s.79
Sub

); Doug Lawson

Good afternoon Jane,

I have received your contact information from s.22,s.79 below and I work with s.2 marketing and selling their goods along with many other BC mink farmers. I am reaching out on behalf of s.22,s.79. My position with North American Fur Auctions is listed. I understand his fur farming license may be suspended. I want to bring to your attention that he will possibly require an export permit or some temporary license or

exception to the suspension in order to pelt the mink and move them to a further processing facility to be dried and prepared for auction. Ultimately, the pelts will need to travel to South Dakota for processing and Wisconsin for grading and preparation for auction.

Could you possibly enlighten me as to the process required to honour his license suspension, yet still obtain an export permit as to not restrict the ability to market the mink that currently exist on this farm? I suggest the timeline will be within the next 30 days, goods will have to move to further processing.

Thank you

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
Director, Rancher Relations Canada

North American Fur Auctions Inc.
65 Skyway Avenue
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M9W 6C7

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C : 416.803.8643
w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2016 1:49 PM
To: 'Wayne Booth'
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Hi Wayne:

I have spoken with s.79 He has depopulated all mink now. I will be doing a final inspection on Friday, December 30th and issuing him a Temporary Permit to the end of March 31st, 2017. This should give enough time to process and ship the pelts as needed.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

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From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:37 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Thank you

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
Director, Rancher Relations Canada

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w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 3:35 PM
To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: s.79

Yes, Lynette Hare will contact you when the temporary license for shipping is put in place.

From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:34 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Thank you for the clarification. Please disregard my phone message, upon further reading I understand completely your position and support this. NAFA will do its part to communicate this with the farmer to market the goods. Would you be able to contact myself when the temporary license has been issued so that we can move ahead with marketing?

Best regards,

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Director, Rancher Relations Canada

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w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 2:25 PM
To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: s.79

Currently s.79 is operating without a fur farm license within the province. The agreement in place, which he is fully aware of, is that once he has depopulated his farm and we have carried out an inspection to do confirm this, he will be granted a temporary license so that he can sell the pelts.

This was done so that the removal of the license was not unduly punitive and that he could depopulate when the pelts were of value.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Jane Pritchard

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch

Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 10:41 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: s.22,s.79
Sub

Doug Lawson

Good afternoon Jane,

I have received your contact information from s.79 and selling their goods along with many other BC mink farmers. I am reaching out below and I work with s.79 on behalf of s.79. I understand his fur farming license may be suspended. I want to bring to your attention that he will possibly require an export permit or some temporary license or exception to the suspension in order to pelt the mink and move them to a further processing facility to be dried and prepared for auction. Ultimately, the pelts will need to travel to South Dakota for processing and Wisconsin for grading and preparation for auction.

Could you possibly enlighten me as to the process required to honour his license suspension, yet still obtain an export permit as to not restrict the ability to market the mink that currently exist on this farm? I suggest the timeline will be within the next 30 days, goods will have to move to further processing.

Thank you

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
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C : 416.803.8643
w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 1:13 PM
To: Mack, James AGRI:EX; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Cc: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: quick question on fur farm inspections

No. We now do risk-based inspections. All mink farms were inspected in 2015 and 2016 (some multiple times) to ensure they were meeting the Canadian Mink Code of Practice and our Fur Farm Regulations.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 12:49 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Cc: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: quick question on fur farm inspections

What can we say to media about the frequency of our inspections of fur farms? Is it a condition of license that we inspect every year?

~~James Mack~~
Assistant Deputy Minister
Agriculture Science and Policy, Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 250-356-1821
james.mack@gov.bc.ca

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 11:36 AM
To: Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Media Request on fur farms

They have all the points covered correctly. Every fur farm was inspected in 2015/2016 and some farms, multiple times while they were being brought up to the standards of the Canadian Code of Practice for Mink and our Fur Farm Regulations. We now do risk-based inspections.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 11:27 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Media Request on fur farms

Can you give me your thoughts please

From: Townsend, Dave H GCPE:EX
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 11:25 AM
To: Zabek, Erin AGRI:EX
Cc: Phelps, Blair GCPE:EX; Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: Media Request on fur farms

Hi Erin,

s.22 we wanted to run this media request by you for approval please.

When you have a minute, please let us know if you have any concerns.

Thanks!

Dave Townsend
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Ministry of Agriculture

Reporter

Kaleigh Rogers, Reporter
Motherboard (Vice Media)
kaleigh.rogers@vice.com
718-732-8191 c: 917-744-7842

Deadline ASAP**Request**

The Brooklyn, New York based reporter is working on a story about fur farms in Canada, and specifically animal welfare laws around this industry.

She understands laws vary from province to province and that, in BC, the provincial Ministry of Agriculture oversees the farms. She is hoping to find out:

1. How often are inspections done on site by the ministry at fur farms in BC?
2. What sort of conditions are inspectors looking for?
3. Does the ministry ever pursue action if it finds evidence of animal cruelty?

Recommendation

Suggest the following be sent on background:

- The B.C. government does not tolerate any mistreatment of animals. That's why the government updated the provincial Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in 2011 to have the toughest penalties in Canada.
- Charges under B.C.'s Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act can be laid against anyone who causes suffering or distress to an animal in British Columbia, including owners, managers and employees in the agriculture sector and on fur farms.
- The maximum penalties that can be levied under provincial legislation against a person who is convicted of causing distress to an animal is \$75,000 and up to 24 months imprisonment.
- The SPCA has the authority to investigate animal cruelty anywhere in British Columbia, including cases that involve domestic animals, farm animals or fur farms.
- Fur Farming is a licensed agricultural activity in B.C. and the B.C. government has legislation and regulations in place that require all animals in British Columbia, to be treated with due care and respect.
- In January 2015, the BC government brought in a new Fur Farm Regulation, which replaced the 66 year old Fur Farm Act. http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/8_2015
- The regulation sets out requirements for areas including health management plans, general health, food and water, pens and structure design.

- Under the new regulation, each mink farm licensed in B.C. is inspected as a condition of relicensing to insure compliance with the new regulation.
- If a Ministry of Agriculture employee identifies areas of an operation that need to be improved during an inspection, the Ministry's expectations are communicated to the farm, and a follow up inspection is scheduled to ensure they have been met.
- Under BC law, any veterinarian who observes an act of animal cruelty, or who, based on the condition of an animal, believes an act of animal cruelty has taken place, is obligated to report it for further investigation.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:35 PM
To: 'Wayne Booth'
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.79

Yes, Lynette Hare will contact you when the temporary license for shipping is put in place.

From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:34 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

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Best regards,

Wayne Booth B. Sc. (Agr)
Director, Rancher Relations Canada

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From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 2:25 PM
To: Wayne Booth <w_booth@nafa.ca>
Cc: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE:s.79

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This was done so that the removal of the license was not unduly punitive and that he could depopulate when the pelts were of value.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Jane Pritchard

Jane Pritchard
Executive Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

From: Wayne Booth [mailto:w_booth@nafa.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2016 10:41 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: s.22,s.79
Sub

Doug Lawson

Good afternoon Jane,

I have received your contact information from s.79
below and I work with s.79
on behalf of s.79

My position with North American Fur Auctions is listed
and selling their goods along with many other BC mink farmers. I am reaching out
I understand his fur farming license may be
suspended. I want to bring to your attention that he will possibly require an export permit or some temporary license or
exception to the suspension in order to pelt the mink and move them to a further processing facility to be dried and
prepared for auction. Ultimately, the pelts will need to travel to South Dakota for processing and Wisconsin for grading
and preparation for auction.

Could you possibly enlighten me as to the process required to honour his license suspension, yet still obtain an export
permit as to not restrict the ability to market the mink that currently exist on this farm? I suggest the timeline will be
within the next 30 days, goods will have to move to further processing.

Thank you

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Director, Rancher Relations Canada

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w_booth@nafa.ca
www.nafa.ca

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 11:02 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

He just called, so his plan is to pelt out completely starting Nov 15th, he will call me to come make sure his barns are empty and we give him a temporary permit to sell the pelts at the auction house. "He" said this is what Jane & Joe agreed to? I'm good with this if we can assure his barns are empty. s.22
s.22

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:42 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Interesting, thank you for calling. We will let him sell his pelts but not under a license but under a special arrangement, no matter what the rules say. I am sure Gary will help us with that.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:40 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79

Talk to s.22

This is the situation:

He wants s.79 off the farm too, s.22 Right now he only rents month-to-month to s.79 so there is no lease agreement. He wants you to give s.79 a temp. permit so he can sell his pelts in the fall. He 'says' the association cannot buy s.79 pelts because they cannot be involved in a commercial enterprise - the auction house has something called chapter 88 (not sure?) and they (other farmers) can't buy his pelts without a license either.

Anyways, I just told him we are waiting to see what the association comes up with after their meeting.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:04 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

An s.22 left a voice mail wanting to talk to me about s.79 s.22
Could you call back and see where this fits into everything first. You know more of the intricacies and stories that s.79 has fed you.
Thanks

Mink Fur Farm Requirements 2016

Farm	Date of Inspection (s)	Pass/Fail	Herd Health Plan Approved	Relicensed 2016	Comments
s.79					
	2016-03-30	Pass	Yes	Yes	relicensed July, 2016
	2016-01-19	Pass	Yes	Yes	
	2016-01-12	Pass	Yes	yes	co-managed by s.79
	2014-12-09	Pass	Yes	No	quit
	2015-10-20	Pass	Yes	Yes	
	2016-01-12	Pass	Yes	Yes	
	2015-06-19	Pass	Yes	Yes	
	2016-01-19	Fail	No	No	confirmed in writing - quit
	2016-03-30	Fail	Yes	No	Roofing needs to be fixed. 3 month temp. Follow up mid April and July
	2015-11-25	Fail	Yes	Yes	re-inspected March 2016 - passed
	2016-02-29	Pass	Yes	Yes	
	2015-09-16	Pass	Yes	Yes	
	2015-10-28	Pass	Yes	Yes	Also has mink on the s.79 and is co-managing.
					confirmed in writing - quit dated April 22, 2016
	19-May-15	Pass	Yes	Yes	
					confirmed in writing - quit dated May 17, 2016

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Wednesday, August 3, 2016 12:18 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re:s.79 Cancellation

Hi Lynette.

We will review^{s.79} situation at our next meeting.

FYI - Gary Hazelwood is Executive Director of CMBA, with no voting privileges. Marianne Patten is President. Gary will forward your information.

s.79

On Aug 2, 2016, at 08:57, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning ^{s.79} and Gary:

For you information, this letter is being issued to ^{s.79}

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<image001.jpg>

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To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
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FYI - Gary Hazelwood is Executive Director of CMBA, with no voting privileges. Marianne Patten is President. Gary will forward your information.

s.79

On Aug 2, 2016, at 08:57, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning s.79 and Gary:

For you information, this letter is being issued to s.79

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<image001.jpg>

<Scan_20160802.pdf>



Ministry of
Agriculture

July 28, 2016

s.79

74700-01
Registered Mail

RE: Fur Farm Licence Cancellation

After reviewing inspection reports of your farm from February 27, March 30, June 23 and July 27, 2016 you have failed to comply with the requirements of the *Animal Health Act*, Fur Farm Regulations and the Canadian Mink Code of Practice.

As a condition of fur farm licensing in BC, requirements itemized in letters to you on February 29 and July 7, 2016, and a meeting with Lynette Hare on July 22, 2016, were to be completed prior to your last inspection of July 27, 2016. The following have not been addressed:

- Sheds – roofs are not adequately repaired to provide shelter to the mink.
- Water pipes continue to leak and contribute to much standing water between sheds.
- Incomplete medical records and not available at time of inspection.
- Documentation of sick and dead mink not available.
- Documentation of feed results not available (as per your Herd Health Plan).

Your license to farm fur in BC has been cancelled. Until such time that the above items are complied with, no further inspections will be done on your farm. A letter from the BC Mink Association stating that your farm meets the requirements of the Code will be required before the Ministry will assess your farm again to ensure it meets the *Fur Farm Regulations* as well.

Sincerely,

Jane Pritchard
Chief Veterinarian
Plant and Animal Health Branch

Pc: Joe Williams, President, BC Mink Association
Gary Hazelwood, President, Canadian Mink Association

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:12 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79 Inspection July 26 2016
Attachments: Inspection July 26 2016.docx

We should meet again to discuss.

July 27, 2016

RE: Inspection of s.79

The following is a list of our observations from our inspection of s.79 July 26, 2016. The points below were outlined in his letter of July 7th and I discussed each point with s.79 when he came into the office on July 22nd and was assured every item would be complete.

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/8_2015#section5

- Sheds – all roofs have been repaired properly so NO rain will leak in.
Improvements were done, but by no means are these roofs rain proof, in our opinion.
- Leaking pipes to water dishes repaired.
Many leaks still apparent and contributing to a lot of standing water under the pens and between the sheds.
- Records of treatments you have been using (medicine, dates).
No records were available and none were brought into the office by the end of the day.

All medications you are using are to be onsite, in a cabinet or refrigerated (if label requires).

Yes.

- Proof of hospital area and red hospital cards are being used, as indicated in your Herd Management plan.
Yes.

- Written documentation of the sick and dead mink.
No documentation available.

- ~~Documentation that your plan to review antimicrobial feeding procedures with a veterinarian and to begin feed submissions to Exova for coliform counts has been initiated.~~

? Was told he did take a sample to Exova, results not available as of today.

The kill box was not on-site. A small cylinder for single mink was being used. Though this was not in his letter, I did tell him on July 22nd we needed to see that as well.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 8:23 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Sorry I have been having trouble with my email. It wasn't coming to my phone. I have been here all month and I didn't see puralator . s.22

s.22

I have a co tank here for quite a while now. I have it rigged up to kill cart. I will work on a better system next month when I'm finished vaccinating but for the time being it works well.

I have my enrichments in the old lady's and males and again waiting to finish vaccinating to put them in the kits .

Any time you want to drop by I should be available . I'm here every day so it's just about when it's good for you.

Sorry for missing your attempts to contact me.

Looking forward to your visit . See you guys soon .

s.79

Sent from my iPhone

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 2:03 PM
To: s.79
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE:s.79

Thanks^{s.79}

The last inspection was Jan 2016. The farm was experimenting with various objects for enrichment and efforts of switching over cage sizes was in progress. We are fine with that, so no, another inspection will not be necessary.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 1:57 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re:s.79

I will make sure that is taken care of asap. One question, or maybe clarification. Will^{s.79} inspection this year?

require an

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

s.79

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lynette', is written over the word 's.79'.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 1:33 PM
To: s.79
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Good Afternoon^{s.79}

I just want to advise you that we have not rec'd the license renewal for this farm despite numerous efforts and reminders to s.79. As such, I will be informing him by registered mail that if it is not rec'd by the end of July he will have to wait until the next licensing cycle of January 2017 to re-apply and his status of being in contravention of the BC Fur Farm Regulations will be sent to the Canadian Mink Association - which would make it difficult to sell pelts.

Also, you had asked about another inspection for your farm. We will be moving to risk-based inspections now. Your farm has met the requirements of the Regulations and the Code of Practice. Another inspection will not be necessary for the 2017 license year.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



That's fine if you are taking responsibility for the care of the mink, I will put your HHP on that file, but this farm has a history of not licensing in the past. Here is his renewal again and another inspection will be done for 2017.

Thanks s.79

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 10:12 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: s.79

Hi Lynette,

s.79 mentioned that you were by. I was not aware that he didn't have his license up to date s.79 still has mink of his own. However I am caring for them as well as the 500 females that we purchased from s.22 after that first Sale. I'm not sure how you consider this arrangement. Since I am caring for these animals can we use the HHP that was submitted for s.79 I believe that the License needs to be in s.79 name. I discussed it with him and that was his opinion as well. Please advise.

s.79

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 9:10 AM
To: s.79
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79

Good morning s.79

On June 23 I stopped at the s.79 I have yet to get an amended herd health plan from s.79 and this farm is still not licensed. Your email on April 5 to me said you had moved 500 females on the farm. Are you the leasee now? Will you be providing a HHP and license renewal for this farm?

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 11:50 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: s.79

Ok

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 11:03 AM
To: s.79
Subject: RE:s.79

Dr Britton & I are off at various times throughout July so I will email you back in August and we can set something up.

Thanks again for taking care of this.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 10:49 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: s.79

Thank you. We can do an inspection any time. Best if we can do s.79
book a date?

on the same day. Can we

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 10:40 AM
To: s.79
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

July 8, 2016

s.79

COPY

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Further to my email of July 7, please set up a time when we can complete the licensing requirements for your farm. At our last visit (March 30th) you did not have any enrichments in the pens and the CO tank was on order. I understand you now have the enrichments in the pens, however, we need to see the CO tank and kill box.

Our 2016 licensing will conclude at the end of July and the Canadian Mink Association will be informed of farms in contravention of the *BC Fur Farm Regulations*. A valid provincial license is required to sell pelts. After July, any farms that have not complied with the Mink Code of Practice or the *Fur Farm Regulations* will be required to wait until the next licensing cycle of January 2017 to re-apply.

s.79 , I encourage you to take care of the licensing of your farm prior to the end of the month. I will be out of the office from July 8 – 18. We can schedule an inspection after the 18th, or you can request Dr. Pritchard or Dr. Britton to inspect, if that is the only week that works for you.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

July 7, 2016

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

As of today's date we have not received your license renewal to farm mink in BC. Our 2016 licensing will conclude at the end of July and the Canadian Mink Association will be informed of farms in contravention of the *BC Fur Farm Regulations*. A valid provincial license is required to sell pelts. After July, any farms that have not complied with the Mink Code of Practice or the *Fur Farm Regulations* will be required to wait until the next licensing cycle of January 2017 to re-apply.

s.79 I encourage you to take care of the licensing of your farm prior to the end of the month. In the event of a mail strike, please bring the application directly into our office at the address noted below.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 1:42 PM
To: s.22,s.79
Subject: CO Tank

Hi s.79

Do you have your CO Tank? We do not need to do another inspection of the farm so disturbing the babies will not be an issue, but we do need to confirm with a visit to see that you have the tank in place and the HHP has been amended and approved.

Our licensing will conclude at the end of July and a list of compliant farms will be sent to the Canadian Mink Association. Farms not in compliance by the end of July will need to wait until the next licensing cycle of January 2017.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

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BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Ministry of
Agriculture

50% shelves
have
75%
whelpers?
have
jump ups

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

June 23, 2016

Inspection Team:

Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

✓
✓

Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

✓
✓

Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

—

All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

✓

All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

✓
✓
✓
✓

Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



Ministry of
Agriculture

July 7, 2016

s.79

74700-01

Delivered by Courier & Post

We have reviewed your inspections from February 29, March 30, and June 23, 2016. Despite advising you of the items which required immediate attention to be in compliance with the Mink Code of Practice, and to obtain a valid Province of BC Fur Farm License, many items were not addressed on our last inspection. At this point, you remain in contravention of the *Fur Farm Regulations* and do not possess a license to farm mink in BC.

From our conversation on July 5th, I understand you have now added an enrichment to every pen and installed shelves to ensure the minimum floor space is met according to the specifications of the Code. **It is your responsibility to understand the Code and apply it accordingly to every pen that is being used on your farm, whether the mink are male, female, whelping, etc.**

Our licensing will conclude at the end of July. Farms will be required to wait until the next licensing cycle of January 2017 to re-apply. The Ministry will be advising the Canadian Mink Association of BC farms that have not met the requirements for 2016 licensing. Farms not licensed will not be able to sell pelts.

We will conduct two further inspections of your farm prior to the end of July. One inspection you may schedule with me (604) 556-3093, the other will be a random inspection. The following is a list of items that must be corrected and/or documented and available for review:

- Sheds – all roofs have been repaired properly so NO rain will leak in.
- Leaking pipes to water dishes repaired.
- Records of treatments you have been using (medicine, dates).
- All medications you are using are to be onsite, in a cabinet or refrigerated (if label requires).
- Proof of hospital area and red hospital cards are being used, as indicated in your Herd Management plan.

../2

Page 2

- Written documentation of the sick and dead mink.
- Documentation that your plan to review antimicrobial feeding procedures with a veterinarian and to begin feed submissions to Exova for coliform counts has been initiated.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Pc: Dr. Jane Pritchard
Dr. Ann Britton



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79
Date: June 23, 2016
Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- NO Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- NO Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- NO Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- NO All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☐ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☐ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☐ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☐ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

Temp expires July 1

*FEB 29
MAR 30
JUNE 23*

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2016 2:49 PM
To: Giacomazzi, Terri AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Mink farms and response to incoming correspondence

To monitor compliance, fur farms are inspected annually. The Ministry of Agriculture engages with the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the fur farm industry to ensure animal care and welfare requirements are met. The Ministry's Animal Health Centre has organized educational seminars for fur farmers annually to provide presentations and discussions surrounding health, welfare and legislative requirements.

Engages sounds more active than it is in reality. We support the SPCA we don't go looking for them to become involved though. Perhaps supports not engages.

We have done the seminars for the last two years, hope to do one this year, no guarantee.

From: Giacomazzi, Terri AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2016 2:07 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink farms and response to incoming correspondence

Hi Jane and Lynette,

I'm responding to an incoming letter to MNL about supporting the Private Members' Bill (237-2016) to reference the mink code as reasonably and generally accepted practices of animal management. I have put together a response that includes the following and I'm wondering if the final paragraph related to inspections and seminars is still accurate. Could you please confirm? Thank you.

In British Columbia, fur farming is already a regulated activity under the *Animal Health Act* and the Fur Farm Regulation. Fur farms must be licenced and are required to meet the provisions of the legislation including those provisions related to animal health plans, cleanliness, breeding, euthanasia, food and water, and housing and equipment.

All fur farms in B.C. are also subject to the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* (PCAA). Under the PCAA, all persons responsible for an animal have a duty to care for the animal and protect the animal from circumstances that cause or permit the animal to be in distress. An animal is in distress if it is:

- a) deprived of adequate food, water, shelter, ventilation, light, space, exercise, care or veterinary treatment; kept in conditions that are unsanitary; not protected from excessive heat or cold;
- b) injured, sick, in pain or suffering, or
- c) abused or neglected.

To monitor compliance, fur farms are inspected annually. The Ministry of Agriculture engages with the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the fur farm industry to ensure animal care and welfare requirements are met. The Ministry's Animal Health Centre organizes an educational seminar

for fur farmers annually to provide presentations and discussions surrounding health, welfare and legislative requirements.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2016 10:29 AM
To: s.22,s.79
Subject: RE:I

Okay, let me know when you have it.

I will ask around, hopefully they will supply the SOP with the tank too.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2016 9:55 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: I

I have the tank coming. Still waiting for work safe instructions on use and storage of deadly odorless gas. Do you happen to have any info? If you do please send it to me

Sent from my iPhone

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2016 9:38 AM
To: s.22,s.79
Subject: RE:

My apologies ^{s.79} I left your last note with Jane and understood she was going to answer you. She would not issue a temporary permit as long as you were still using the old kill method. ^{s.22}

Are you now using a CO tank (I believe you had one on order), if so then I will mail out your temporary and we'll visit in August when it's less stressful.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

—Original Message—

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2016 5:38 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject:

I have been waiting for a reply from you for over three weeks. I was on the understanding that I had a temporary licence until you came back in July or August. The next month is very busy on the farm which is the reason I thought you were going to come closer to August. We are weaning and it's very stressful (for the mink and my self lol).

We had some issues with mink dragging their babies onto the ramps in the hot days and the kits walking out the cage and some even hanging themselves on the ramp. I have taken the few hundred that I had in out till I can come up with another plan. Any suggestions?

The old lady's that I have pulled have a golf ball, or rock in them so the enrichments for the singles are taken care of.

Sent from my iPhone

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2016 12:59 PM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Fwd: BC news RE Mink Code

FYI

Jane Pritchard
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
British Columbia

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22,s.79
Date: May 24, 2016 at 12:41:47 PM PDT
To: Jane Pritchard <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Ann Britton <Ann.P.Britton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: BC news RE Mink Code

Hi Jane. Have you heard about this?

s.79

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22,s.79
Date: May 23, 2016 at 16:25:17 PDT
s.22,s.79

Subject: Fw: BC news RE Mink Code

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: s.22
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2016 2:41 PM
To: s.79
s.79

: Dr. Jim Goltz: Garv Hazlewood CMBA: s.79

Subject: BC news RE Mink Code

Hi everyone,

Hope you are enjoying the last vestiges of the long weekend.

Some recent news here in BC that ^{s.2}₂ alerted me to (Thanks s.22

The opposition MLA (agriculture critic) introduced a private members bill last week.

New Democrat bill would ensure animal welfare standards applied to mink farms

May 18, 2016

Posted in: Agriculture

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Page 099

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Copyright

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

A.C.B

Jim Jam

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 6:59 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

I had been using the old style kill box with exhaust from engine and cooled through a water box to take the heat out of the exhaust . Worked excellent . Dead in about a min. I understand that this is not what is required and like I said am in the midst of changing over

Sent from my iPhone

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 11:24 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

I would pre fill the box and I kill about 60 to 75 males and 75 to 90 fe. Max in any given load.the box can easily hold double that amount though. I'm just not sure on the flow but it would be to the standards of the code . I'll have the tank and regulator and box when you come in August or whenever you come by.
Sent from my iPhone

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 5:02 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Fur Farm License

quit

Hello Lynette

inspection: we don't have a mink and we are not working there. if you need inspection you can come over anytime but nobody there I'm not live there anymore.

also I have question. if we going to have a sheep and keep my farm status do I need farm license for sheep too?

Thank you s.79

On Tuesday, April 12, 2016 11:24 AM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning s.79

Could you please advise by email that your farm has now fully pelted out all remaining mink and you no longer require a license. We require confirmation in writing or a final inspection of the property.

Thank you.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

2014 **10** Best Places to Work

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2016 8:33 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: HHP

1. Yes the treatments are on the mink cards and the card would be placed on a hook on top the the cage until the treatments are finished. The treatments are also logged in the feed log book.

2. 60 to 80 animals can be in the cart at a time. If required, the cart would be prefilled with gas. For instance with a load over 20 mink, we would also add gas up to two times if the load was closer to the 80.

3. Waiting a period of two minutes after the last animal before opening the cart.

On Apr 1, 2016 12:31 PM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi^{s.79}, round 4 – please answer the last couple questions from Dr. Pritchard.

Thanks.

Lynette Hare

Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2016 9:48 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: one last item

I can tell you that he tried the chains, and they did not work at all. He had difference version of them but the weather can cause the mouth to stick to the chain in the winter. The mink would get bleeding (lips/mouth). He did say that golf balls will have to go in after the false bottoms are removed.

He can not use the golf ball or anything like that while the flu boards are in. It would become dirty and unsanitary.

The floor boards are for the kits.

On Apr 1, 2016 10:14 AM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi^{s.79}, can you please confirm that s.79 has added a manipulative enrichment (golf ball or chain, etc) to each pen?

thanks

Lynette Hare

Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3





Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: March 30, 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ✓ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ✓ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ✓ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ✓ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- ❖ All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

No multiple mink in pens at time of inspection.

- ❖ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

No enrichments in pens.

Nest Boxes

- ✓ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

- ✓ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ✓ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

- ✓ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

- ✓ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ✓ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

- ✓ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

Feed provided by Dogwood Farms

Record Keeping

Not approved – CO tank not being used at time of inspection.

Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

- ❖ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

A follow up inspection to follow in July.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 3:37 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: AGRI FOI release - Fur Bearers Annt re: fur farms

From: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 5:04 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX; Keirstead, Zoe AGRI:EX; Phelps, Blair GCPE:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX; Townsend, Dave H GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: AGRI FOI release - Fur Bearers Annt re: fur farms

Thanks for that update Jane... And for keeping on top of this....

Derek Sturko
Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 24, 2016, at 2:55 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

These emails dated back to the old fur farm act which is why the \$50 fines are mentioned.

I would like to note that the inspection process under the new reg is more rigorous and has resulted in one farm confirmed to be going out of business and as many as 4 others considering this. We also have farms that have failed the on farm inspection and have not been re-licensed but given 30 days to comply. We are also staying in close contact with the buyers and the unlicensed farms are now allowed to ship pelts.

We went into the 2016 licensing with 16 farms. One has ceased to do business and "pelted out all the animals". Four others are considering this, two have failed and are not licensed but waiting for a second inspection to see if they have made sufficient changes to pass. Three still have not had their Health management plan approved. Only 4 farms have been fully licensed for 2016. Licenses expire the end of March.

Just saying, things change.

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 2:39 PM
To: Keirstead, Zoe AGRI:EX
Cc: Phelps, Blair GCPE:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Townsend, Dave H GCPE:EX
Subject: AGRI FOI release - Fur Bearers Annt re: fur farms

Hi Zoe, just a heads up a NR was issued today by the Fur Bearers about an AGRI FOI that was released a couple of weeks ago. The below outlines AGRI's position if needed, we have not received any calls for comment.

<http://furbearerdefenders.com/blog/freedom-information-requests-show-problems-fur-farm-oversight>

Copyright

Page 109 to/à Page 110

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Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 2:58 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: AGRI FOI release - Fur Bearers Annt re: fur farms

Fyi

They actually did something with the FOI documents, though they were selective.

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 2:39 PM
To: Keirstead, Zoe AGRI:EX
Cc: Phelps, Blair GCPE:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Townsend, Dave H GCPE:EX
Subject: AGRI FOI release - Fur Bearers Annt re: fur farms

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Copyright

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: March 30 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ✓ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ✓ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

No Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

All sheds with mink require the metal roofs to be fixed to keep the mink from being exposed to the elements.

No Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

— All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

No multiple mink in pens at time of inspection.

- ✓ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

- ✓ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

- ✓ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ✓ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

- ✓ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

- ✓ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ✓ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

- ✓ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.
- ✓ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.
- ✓ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

- ✓ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:
 - Vet-Client-Patient relationship
 - Mink Identification System
 - Vaccination and treatment records
 - Tracking mortalities

No Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

A temporary provincial fur license will be issued until such time that the roofs are fixed to protect the mink from the elements. A follow up inspection will be completed in mid-April to assess progress, and again in July/August to ensure compliance prior to re-licensing for the remainder of the year.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2016 9:32 AM
To: s.22,s.79
Subject: herd health plan

Hi s.79

Dr. Pritchard has looked at the HHP and has not approved it. Please have^{s.79} add more detail to the following areas:

Vaccination: What are the mink being vaccinated with?

Euthanasia: More detail needed. Also, snapping the necks are not acceptable, they need to be gassed.

General Practices: More details regarding the feed record book.

Treatment: More details on 'logging any problems'

Those are the notes she made on the plan. If you are unsure what to add, please contact her directly at 604 556-3013.

Thank you.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3





Ministry of
Agriculture

February 29, 2016

s.79

Copy

RE: Inspection Items

Dear ^{s.79}

As discussed today during your farm inspection, the following items must be corrected prior to renewing your license for 2016:

- A manipulative enrichment must be added to every cage (after breeding is fine).
- Old food must be removed from the top of the pens prior to adding new food over top of it.
- Manure piled in cages to be removed and maintained.
- Sheds with holes/gaps in the roof need to be repaired to prevent rain entering the cages.
- Development and approval of a Herd Health Plan

Please continue to improve the drainage on the property as a lot of standing water was noted which will add to the fly and odour issues on the farm.

The cages we discussed (non-conforming 7"x17" plus a nest box of 7"x7") does not meet the minimum requirements in Table 3 on page 2 of the Code and should be removed completely. Though we appreciate there were no mink in these cages, the removal of these from the sheds is best to avoid an error in using them again.

I will call to reschedule a follow-up inspection during the week of March 21 – 24.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 12:04 PM
To: s.79
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Plan

Good Morning^{s.79}

Under the *Animal Health Act*, Fur Farm Regulations , a license is required to farm mink whether ten or 10,000 and all the requirements for those mink need to be fulfilled. It is our understanding a BC license is not required to sell your pelts.

I would like to suggest if you are down to 10 mink, that you pelt the remaining animals at this time, you can then avoid any further requirements for licensing. I would have to do a final inspection to ensure you have no remaining mink on your farm.

If you choose to get back into farming in the future, all the requirements of the Ministry and the Code of Practices would need to be fulfilled.

Please let me know what you decide to do.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

2014 **10** Best Places to Work

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 1:56 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Herd Health Plan

Hi Lynette,

I have a few questions.

I am down to only 10 breeder mink now.
Do I need to use the vet for such a small number of mink?

I am keeping these because I need to keep my licence, in order to retain my shipping permit..
I have about 10,000 pelts in the freezer which I would eventually like to ship to the auction company.

Is there a convenient way to retain my licence and shipping permit for the next three years, with no minks?

s.79

On Monday, February 1, 2016 8:40 AM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks s.79

Dr. Pritchard will not accept it in this form.

Please have a vet assist you, either Dr. Heather Anholt or a vet of your choice. Other than that, maybe a meeting at our office to go over this.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 8:27 AM

To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Subject: Re: Herd Health Plan

Good Morning Hare,Lynette

•

How is carbon monoxide applied?

50Kg gas cylinder tank of carbon monoxide through regulator to the killing box.(carrying box)

• **How do you select animals to move and treat, and what treatment is applied? What about pain control?**
when I see bad dropping or dry eye or active is slow or not eating good treatment is give some beef lever or horse lever and I never use pain killer before but this year I'll contact with my vet.

- **What medications would be increased for parasite control?**

I don't understand this question but I'm using ready mix feed from other farm they supply mink mix feed to our area using 5-6 farmers same feed mix with parasite control.

- **Signs of Distress – related to the mink (though we appreciate your comments that you enjoy your work).**

Thank you ^{s.79}

On Thursday, January 28, 2016 1:51 PM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Afternoon ^{s.79}

Dr. Pritchard has reviewed your revised Herd Health Plan. There are still a few outstanding issues to address:

- **How is carbon monoxide applied?**
- **How do you select animals to move and treat, and what treatment is applied? What about pain control?**
- **What medications would be increased for parasite control?**
- **Signs of Distress – related to the mink (though we appreciate your comments that you enjoy your work).**

I have cc'd Dr. Anholt in this email. As Dr. Britton and I suggested earlier, she has been assisting many of the mink farmers in the Valley with their herd management plans. I'm hoping you can contact her to help you as this document is a critical piece of the requirement for re-licensing in 2016.

Dr. Heather Anholt's email address

s.22

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:04 AM
To: s.79
Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health doc

Hi^{s.79} Okay – we can go with that this year. Dr. Pritchard has made one note on your HHP and that is the "euthanasia section requires more detail, otherwise ok".
So if you could make that adjustment and send it in with your license renewal form that would be great.

Thanks

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

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From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 8:07 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health doc

Here is where our ranch is at as of now. All of our cages meet COP table 3..most meet table 2 for square inches but our breeder pens and cages around our fence are only 12 inches high as per old code of practice. These cages are due to be replaced over the next few years. When replaced they will meet table 1 of the COP. There are approximately 1700 of these pens. Of the remaining 2000 or so cages, 1130 meet table 1 of COP requirements. The remaining 900 meet table 2. All cages are enriched with plastic chains that dangle from the top of the cages. We are experimenting with different shelf/platform ideas for our breeder pens but as they are only 12 inches high makes it tough to put in a shelf that is useful for the mink while still being able to keep the mink cage clean.

Hope that helps
Have a good day
s.79

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: February 11, 2016 1:17 PM

To s.79

Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: Herd Health doc

When we visited your farm with Dr. McHaddie, we recall most items in the Code of Practice were looked after, or in the process, and it was an excellent farm.

If you can confirm your cages meet the standard (in table 2 of the Code); multiple mink have a shelf; and all cages have an enrichment of some sort then we are satisfied that your farm meets our requirements for licensing for 2016. We will make a farm visit prior to next year though.

Dr. Pritchard is reviewing your Herd Health Plan.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 11:51 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: count on mink farms

Funny you should ask ☺ Last Thursday I sent personalized letters to all fur farmers with their update and what, if anything, they still required.

- 5 No contact with us (no inspection booked, no HHP)
- 7 have had an inspection, but the HHP is incomplete or missing
- 5 Complete and ready to re-license
- 2 Either need re-inspection and HHP amended.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

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From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 11:45 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: count on mink farms

How many were licensed in 2015, how many have requested inspection, how many have passed, how many have been visited?

Thanks
Jane

Jane Pritchard
Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3



Where ideas work



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 8:41 AM
To: s.79
Subject: RE: Herd Health Plan

Thank! s.79

Dr. Pritchard will not accept it in this form.

Please have a vet assist you, either Dr. Heather Anholt or a vet of your choice. Other than that, maybe a meeting at our office to go over this.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 8:27 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Herd Health Plan

Good Morning Hare,Lynette

How is carbon monoxide applied?
50Kg gas cylinder tank of carbon monoxide through regulator to the
killing box.(carrying box)

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when I see bad dropping or dry eye or active is slow or not eating good
treatment is give some beef lever or horse lever and I never use pain killer before but this year
I'll contact with my vet.

- What medications would be increased for parasite control?
I don't understand this question but I'm using ready mix feed from

other farm they supply mink mix feed to our area using 5-6 farmers same feed mix with parasite control.

- Signs of Distress – related to the mink (though we appreciate your comments that you enjoy your work).

Thank you ^{s.79}

On Thursday, January 28, 2016 1:51 PM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Afternoon ^{s.79}

Dr. Pritchard has reviewed your revised Herd Health Plan. There are still a few outstanding issues to address:

- How is carbon monoxide applied?
- How do you select animals to move and treat, and what treatment is applied? What about pain control?
- What medications would be increased for parasite control?
- Signs of Distress – related to the mink (though we appreciate your comments that you enjoy your work).

I have cc'd Dr. Anholt in this email. As Dr. Britton and I suggested earlier, she has been assisting many of the mink farmers in the Valley with their herd management plans. I'm hoping you can contact her to help you as this document is a critical piece of the requirement for re-licensing in 2016.

Dr. Heather Anholt's email address

s.22

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

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Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: February 29, 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ✓ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ✓ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ✓ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ✓ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

No multiple mink noted at this time.

All pens meet minimum standards in Table 2, 4/19 pens meet standards in Table 3

_____ All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

- ✓ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

- ✓ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ✓ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

- ✓ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

- ✓ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

- ✓ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ✓ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

- ✓ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.
- ✓ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.
- ✓ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping approved by Dr. Pritchard Feb 4, 2016

- ✓ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:
 - Vet-Client-Patient relationship
 - Mink Identification System
 - Vaccination and treatment records
 - Tracking mortalities
 - ✓ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.
-

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 8:39 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Plan

Maybe he should come in and we do this as an interview, or maybe we just tell him to have his vet complete the health management plan as it is not yet in the correct format....
Let's go with contact your vet...

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 8:02 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Herd Health Plan

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 8:27 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Herd Health Plan

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Dr. Heather Anholt's email address

s.22

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:04 AM
To: s.79
Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health doc

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Thanks

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



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s.79

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: February 11, 2016 1:17 PM

To: s.79

Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: Herd Health doc

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Dr. Pritchard is reviewing your Herd Health Plan.

Lynette Hare

Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 1:51 PM
To: s.79
Cc: 'Heather Anholt'
Subject: Herd Health Plan

Good Afternoon s.79

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Dr. Heather Anholt's email address

s.22

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 10:32 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: s.79 Herd Health Plan2

I am a bit speechless, how do we explain what we need.
I fear that if we send an example it will come back copy pasted...

This is still not adequate.

No explanation on how the carbon monoxide is applied.

No discussion on how he selects animals to move and treat, and I am still unsure of what the treatment is applied, nothing about pain control, would prefer that the veterinarian signs off on treatments but I don't think we have applied that to everyone.

Have no idea what medications would be increased for parasite control...no idea at all there.

-----Original Message-----

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 9:12 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79 Herd Health Plan2

Here is ^{s.79} updated HHP. Let me know if this is acceptable.

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

s.79 Herd Health Plan2

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 2:08 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Inspection and Non conforming Issues
Attachments: Lynette Hare.pdf

Good Morning
I received letter today but I can't read on back side.

could you send me good copy by e-mail. Thanks^{s.79}

On Thursday, January 21, 2016 11:55 AM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning^{s.79}

Thank you for meeting with us on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Non-conforming items noted were:

- 1) No bedding in any nest box
- 2) No enrichments in any cage (a manipulative toy of some sort, whether a golf ball or preferably a chain)
- 3) No enhancements (hammocks or shelves)
- 4) Many nest boxes not attached to cage (and upside down in the cage)
- 5) Manure piled in the corners of many cages

Though we appreciate your concern for thinning the mink out at this time, it is felt that does not outweigh the immediate comfort and basic care of the animals.

After consultation with Dr. Pritchard **you must add shavings to all nest boxes, fix the broken nest boxes, and clean out the manure piled in cages.**

Ensure your pens meet the minimum density requirements in Table 2 on page 11 and enrichments are being added.

I have also included a copy of your Herd Health Plan with notes from Dr. Pritchard to be addressed and a link to Dr. Heather Anholt who may be assistance to writing up your plan and bringing your farm up to the Code's standard to relicense you for this year.

We would like to re-inspect your farm next Thursday (January 28) at 9:00 am to ensure the above items have been corrected.

s.22

https://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/mink_code_of_practice.pdf

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3





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Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: January 19, 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ✓ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ✓ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ✓ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ✓ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

____ All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
~~if a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.~~

- ✓ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

- ✓ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ✓ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

- ✓ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

- ✓ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

- ✓ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ✓ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

- ✓ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

Record Keeping

Herd Health Management Plan in place, including: -

Incomplete, to be resubmitted

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

- ✓ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



Ministry of
Agriculture

- Box must have shaving
- pull the box
→ then add a shelf.

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: January 19, 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
if a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

- manure piled in cages
- Broken boxes
- no bedding
- no shelves
- no toys
- drainage issue standing water

Box is
upside down
none - no
Nest Boxes
Bedding

A clean
out
cages

If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

Record Keeping

Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

✓ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



January 21, 2016

s.79

Emailed: January 21, 2016

Good Morning ^{s.79}

COPY

Thank you for meeting with us on Tuesday.

Non-conforming items noted were:

- 1) No bedding in any nest box
- 2) No enrichments in any cage (a manipulative toy of some sort, whether a golf ball or preferably a chain)
- 3) No enhancements (hammocks or shelves)
- 4) Many nest boxes not attached to cage (and upside down in the cage)
- 5) Manure piled in the corners of many cages

Though we appreciate your concern for thinning the mink out at this time, it is felt that does not outweigh the immediate comfort and basic care of the animals. After consultation with Dr.

Pritchard you must add shavings to all nest boxes, fix the broken nest boxes, and clean out the manure piled in cages.

Ensure your pens meet the minimum density requirements in Table 2 on page 11 and enrichments are being added.

I have also included a copy of your Herd Health Plan with notes from Dr. Pritchard to be addressed and a link to Dr. Heather Anholt who may be assistance to writing up your plan and bringing your farm up to the Code's standard to relicense you for this year.

We would like to re-inspect your farm next Thursday (January 28) at 9:00 am to ensure the above items have been corrected.

Page 2

s.22

https://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/mink_code_of_practice.pdf

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 11:55 AM
To: s.79
Subject: Inspection and Non conforming Issues
Attachments: s.79 Herd Health Plan.pdf

Good Morning^{s.79}

Thank you for meeting with us on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Non-conforming items noted were:

- 1) No bedding in any nest box
- 2) No enrichments in any cage (a manipulative toy of some sort, whether a golf ball or preferably a chain)
- 3) No enhancements (hammocks or shelves)
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Though we appreciate your concern for thinning the mink out at this time, it is felt that does not outweigh the immediate comfort and basic care of the animals.

After consultation with Dr. Pritchard **you must add shavings to all nest boxes, fix the broken nest boxes, and clean out the manure piled in cages.**

Ensure your pens meet the minimum density requirements in Table 2 on page 11 and enrichments are being added.

I have also included a copy of your Herd Health Plan with notes from Dr. Pritchard to be addressed and a link to Dr. Heather Anholt who may be assistance to writing up your plan and bringing your farm up to the Code's standard to relicense you for this year.

We would like to re-inspect your farm next Thursday (January 28) at 9:00 am to ensure the above items have been corrected.

s.22

https://www.nfacc.ca/pdfs/codes/mink_code_of_practice.pdf

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 11:12 AM
To: s.79
Subject: Inspection for Jan 19 9 am

Good Morning:

Thanks for returning my email. The Herd Health Plan is due prior to renewing your license at the end of March. It would be ideal to have it ready for us next Tuesday, but not necessary if you have not started. I understand s.79 has a template for the HHP if you would like to contact him (I don't have it). However, the plan needs to outline the following protocols for your farm (some of the farms have had their vet prepare the HHP):

The HHP should contain the following information:

- Veterinary Advisor Name, Telephone #, etc. (must be a BC licensed veterinarian)
- How you identify and track the mink
- Vaccination and Treatment Protocols (ie when kits are vaccinated, when a mink gets sick – what do you use?)
- New Stock Protocols (ie what do you do when new stock is purchased)
- Parasite control (ie what medicine is used); how do you keep fly population down, how often?
- Euthanasia Protocols – how is this done?
- General Practices (ie, fresh feed, how often; blood tests; cages cleaned, enrichment used, nest box or shelf for exercise)
- Signs of distress – how often are mink checked, what do you look for (open wounds, crusty eyes, lethargy, etc)
- Treatment – first aid used,

Hopefully this helps. See you next Tuesday.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 7:47 AM

To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Inspection for Jan 19 9 am

Good Morning

regarding Herd Health Plan : what is this? How should I make it?
could you send me a sample of Herd Health Plan ?
Do you need it on inspection day?

Thank you^{s.79}

On Tuesday, January 12, 2016 8:41 AM, "Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX" <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning:

I understand you left a msg for book an inspection for re-licensing. Would Jan 19 at 9 am work for you? Also, please have your Herd Health Plan available as this is part of the licensing process.

Please confirm this time with me if appropriate.

Thanks.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3





Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: January 12, 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ✓ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ✓ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ✓ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ✓ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

~~All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.~~

- No multiple mink in cages noted at time of inspection.

~~All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)~~

- Missing manipulative enrichments in some cages but was experimenting with chains, etc.

Nest Boxes

- X Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

- ✓ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ✓ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

____ Bedding is clean and dry.

- Many nest boxes were bare. Please ensure all cages have a nest box and supplied with adequate bedding during whelping, lactation, furring and winter months.

Environment

- ✓ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ✓ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed – supplied by Dogwood.

- ✓ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

Record Keeping

- ✓ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:
 - Vet-Client-Patient relationship
 - Mink Identification System
 - Vaccination and treatment records
 - Tracking mortalities
- ✓ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79

Date: January 12, 2016

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- ☒ All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
if a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

- ☒ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

In progress - experimenting with various objects ie golf balls, empty drug bottles.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

January 12, 2016

Inspection Team:

Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton



Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations



Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing



Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.



Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice



All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
if a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.



All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

in progress

Nest Boxes



Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.



Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.



If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☐ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

☐ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

Recd. ✓
* no

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 11:02 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Licence

The veterinarian named needs to be familiar enough with them that they would write a prescription for antibiotics or pain control medication for them (this means they are licensed to practice in BC), and will have reviewed and helped to develop their treatment protocols. If I contacted the veterinarian to confirm this they would: know who I was talking about and be familiar with the farm and the treatment protocols.

Jane

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 10:59 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Fur Farm Licence

Do they need a local vet?

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 10:54 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Fur Farm Licence

we will make it work.

One question that I have regarding a working relationship with a veterinarian. Can we use Dr John Easley? I know him quite well, however he is not local. We don't really have a vet that has worked with us recently. Or maybe you have a suggestion. If I have herd health issues I have usually contacted s.22

s.79

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 10:40 AM
To: s.79
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Licence

Yes, I did. Thank you.

We have two other farms in Aldergrove scheduled for the morning of Jan 12. We could be at your farm by approximately 11:30 – 12:00 if that works.

Which of your farm locations would you like to meet at us?

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
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Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2016 10:27 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Fur Farm Licence

Good morning Lynette,

Hopefully you had a relaxing break over the holidays.

I guess we need to get our Mink Farm Inspection done at s.79

Can you schedule us in?

Please let me know once you have a date picked out.

Thanks.

s.79

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 1:27 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

you too Jane! here's to our joining the famous pug in our jumps for joy in 2016

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 1:22 PM
To: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Unfortunately I think you are right.
Hope you had a great Christmas and that you will have a super New Year's celebration.
Jane

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 1:08 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

thanks Jane, hope it goes well – probably safe to assume that any comments you make during the meeting may be shared with reporters afterwards.

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 10:42 AM
To: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

fyi

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 10:42 AM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Yes that is the plan Leslie. See you then.
No one will be joining me from my end, Ann and Lynette are off this week. They should not be needed as this is an informal chat about interests to help in moving forward.
Happy Holidays,
Jane

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 10:25 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Hi Jane,

Just confirming our meeting tomorrow at 1767 Angus Campbell Road in Abbotsford for 1pm. If it's okay with you, my colleague, Adrian Nelson will be joining us. He is our Director of Communications. Really looking forward to seeing you.

Hope you had some restful time off.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 5:00 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Any information on your organization would be helpful. I had not planned on inviting anyone else. Is there anyone you would like to have invited. We will just meet in my office I think.
Jane

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 4:58 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Thank you again so much, Jane. Is there anything I can bring you that might be helpful? Who will also be attending?

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
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Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 4:54 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Excellent Lesley, I have scheduled in an hour and a half with your starting at 1PM on December 30th.

If you can drive out to our building in Abbotsford that would be super. The address is 1767 Angus Campbell Road in Abbotsford, the building is just north of Hwy 1 between the Sumas and Whatcom exits.

Thank you,
Jane Pritchard

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 2:48 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Hi Jane,

Sounds great. Can we arrange something for Wednesday, December 30th for 1pm? Please provide me with an address/location that is convenient for you, and I am happy to drive to Abbotsford.

Thanks again for reaching out. Much appreciated.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
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Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 2:33 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Lesley,
Next week is a bit of a challenge, I have any time after 11AM on Friday Dec 24th. The week after I have afternoons between the 29th and the 31st.

Please pick a time that is convenient to you, it would be much appreciated if you wouldn't mind driving out here.

If none of these times are convenient I will look at the first week in January.

Thank you,
Jane

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 4:33 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Thank you so much for getting back to me, Jane. I really appreciate it.

Any time after December 21 works for me, afternoons are ideal. I am also more than happy to travel to meet you if that is more convenient.

Again, thank you for reaching out and for making this happen.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
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Tel: 604-435-1850
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You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 3:46 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Please let me know when a convenient time would be for you to meet with me Lesley,
Thanks,
Jane

From: Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 1:20 PM
To: 'lesley@furbearerdefenders.com'
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Subject: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

File: 0280-30
Ref: 183179

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W Broadway
Vancouver BC V5Y 1P4
VIA EMAIL: lesley@furbearerdefenders.com

Dear Ms. Fox:

Thank you for meeting with me on October 12, 2015 and for your follow up email of October 23, 2015 expressing concern for animal welfare on British Columbia's fur farms.

The BC Fur Farm Regulation under the Animal Health Act is aligned with the National Code of Practice for Mink Farming. With the new regulation in place, every mink farm licensed in BC (19) will be inspected before it is relicensed for 2016.

During our meeting, you stated that you were interested in learning more about improvements to mink farming in BC, and an invitation to a fur farm and an upcoming mink farm producers meeting was extended. When those invitations were broached with the mink industry, they steadfastly refused to support them. You indicated in an email to Jane Pritchard that there are misconceptions floating around about each other's interests, and that a meeting to chat simply about these would be beneficial. This would seem to be the most logical next step. Dr. Pritchard will email you to find a time to have this meeting.

Fur Farming is a licensed agricultural activity in the province of BC. The province is committed to supporting the industry carrying out this activity in a manner that aligns with the National Mink Farming Code of Practice as well as with the BC Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Norm Letnick
Minister

pc: Derek Sturko, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture

Dr. Jane Pritchard, Director
Ministry of Agriculture



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Lesley Fox <lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 5:05 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Sounds great. At some point, I would love an introduction to any of the local fur farmers, but that might be premature. Happy to just meet with you first to learn more about you and your work, and to talk a little bit about The Fur Bearers.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 5:00 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Any information on your organization would be helpful. I had not planned on inviting anyone else. Is there anyone you would like to have invited. We will just meet in my office I think.

Jane

From: Lesley Fox [mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 4:58 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Thank you again so much, Jane. Is there anything I can bring you that might be helpful? Who will also be attending?

Lesley Fox
Executive Director

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals

179 W. Broadway

Vancouver, BC

V5Y 1P4

Tel: 604-435-1850

Cell: 778-892-5369

www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

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www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 4:54 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Excellent Lesley, I have scheduled in an hour and a half with your starting at 1PM on December 30th.

If you can drive out to our building in Abbotsford that would be super. The address is 1767 Angus Campbell Road in Abbotsford, the building is just north of Hwy 1 between the Sumas and Whatcom exits.

Thank you,
Jane Pritchard

From: Lesley Fox [mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 2:48 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Hi Jane,

Sounds great. Can we arrange something for Wednesday, December 30th for 1pm? Please provide me with an address/location that is convenient for you, and I am happy to drive to Abbotsford.

Thanks again for reaching out. Much appreciated.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 2:33 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Lesley,
Next week is a bit of a challenge, I have any time after 11AM on Friday Dec 24th. The week after I have afternoons between the 29th and the 31st.

Please pick a time that is convenient to you, it would be much appreciated if you wouldn't mind driving out here.

If none of these times are convenient I will look at the first week in January.

Thank you,
Jane

From: Lesley Fox [<mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 4:33 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Thank you so much for getting back to me, Jane. I really appreciate it.

Any time after December 21 works for me, afternoons are ideal. I am also more than happy to travel to meet you if that is more convenient.

Again, thank you for reaching out and for making this happen.

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX [<mailto:Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 3:46 PM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

Please let me know when a convenient time would be for you to meet with me Lesley,
Thanks,
Jane

From: Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 1:20 PM
To: 'lesley@furbearerdefenders.com'
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Subject: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

File: 0280-30
Ref: 183179

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W Broadway
Vancouver BC V5Y 1P4
VIA EMAIL: lesley@furbearerdefenders.com

Dear Ms. Fox:

Thank you for meeting with me on October 12, 2015 and for your follow up email of October 23, 2015 expressing concern for animal welfare on British Columbia's fur farms.

The BC Fur Farm Regulation under the Animal Health Act is aligned with the National Code of Practice for Mink Farming. With the new regulation in place, every mink farm licensed in BC (19) will be inspected before it is relicensed for 2016.

During our meeting, you stated that you were interested in learning more about improvements to mink farming in BC, and an invitation to a fur farm and an upcoming mink farm producers meeting was extended. When those invitations were broached with the mink industry, they steadfastly refused to support them. You indicated in an email to Jane Pritchard that there are misconceptions floating around about each other's interests, and that a meeting to chat simply about these would be beneficial. This would seem to be the most logical next step. Dr. Pritchard will email you to find a time to have this meeting.

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Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Norm Letnick
Minister

pc: Derek Sturko, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture

Dr. Jane Pritchard, Director
Ministry of Agriculture



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www.avast.com

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Nancy Daigneault <ndaigneault@iftf.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2015 5:12 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Fur Council of Canada; Gary Hazlewood
Subject: Fwd: Another kijiji Ad about Fur Farming!

Jane

We have encountered this in NS. The anti fur people are trying to get onto farms. FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Alan Herscovici" <alanh@furcouncil.com>
Date: December 8, 2015 at 5:53:02 PM EST
To: <cmbsa@ica.net>
Cc: <ndaigneault@iftf.com>, 's.22
Subject: Another kijiji Ad about Fur Farming!

Gary – pls forward to whoever you think in BC....and to any police contacts? -alan

<http://vancouver.craigslist.ca/rds/pet/5347469373.html>

Any Info on "Dogwood Fur Farm" Wtf (Aldergrove) VANCOUVER

Is this for real? We really have fur farms here???

According to stats canada we have 15 fur farms in BC... what? yeah! they are farmed for their fur or sold to labs for testing. Oh Nice... Fur Farms... (we are all going to hell for our ignorance/tolerance)

We need to publicize this somehow... I'd like to see inside one of these Mink or Fox farms. Do they get inspected? Anyone have connections or can forward this idea to someone for more investigation and publication?

I really don't think this is needed in this time and age and the way we treat most animals is deplorable.

I'm still in shock...

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

Agreed

Here is ^{s.79} can add

s.22,s.79

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:31 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

It is a lot of documents and they will want them electronically eventually so maybe if ^{s.7}₉ has emails they should go that way?

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:30 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

I can mail out, but maybe a cover letter from you would be good. I don't have a list of emails for the milk people.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

Is protocol to send them to ^{s.}_{7a} to send out or should we do this directly?

From: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:21 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

Hi Jane

I think the documents look good, very comprehensive. I would email them to the farmers. ^{s.}₇₉ added to the email list. He is apparently not getting the emails that ^{s.}₇ is sending out.

needs to be

Cheers
Ann

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 8:46 AM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Herd Health Documents

I would appreciate your feedback on the documents, and suggestion on how best to get these documents to each licensed mink farmer.

Thanks
jane

From: Nancy Daigneault [<mailto:ndaigneault@iftf.com>]
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 5:16 PM
To: Dr. Bob Perry; Dr. Kadri Uukkivi; Gary Hazlewood; Heather Anholt; Jane Carpenter; john easley; Ken and Elaine Johnson; Paul Morris; rob@mainstreetanimalhospital.ca; Tapscott, Brian (OMAFRA)
Cc: Samantha Babister; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Herd Health Documents

All,

Hope everyone has had an enjoyable fall. As we gear up for the IFF herd health program's inception in Ontario, BC and Manitoba, Dr. Easley has asked me to forward you some documents on the program as it has been developed. Please review the relevant documents and let us know if you think there need to be any revisions or changes or suggested alternations.

We are currently putting together a draft email which will be sent to the ranchers in Ontario/BC/Manitoba. Brian Tapscott will take care of the ranchers list in Ontario but I am hoping that perhaps Jane in BC can help us get the email out to ranchers in BC; Ken – perhaps you can help compile a list in Manitoba?

Once we gather all pertinent emails, we can send one out which will outline the program and ask those interested to contact me and I will send them the participating vet emails and contact information. We are aiming for the program to begin in January- February for the first visits. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Nancy

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:27 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

I think we should do it. Perhaps we could ask for read receipt to ensure everyone got it?

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Herd Health Documents

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Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 8:46 AM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
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jane

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Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 5:16 PM
To: Dr. Bob Perry; Dr. Kadri Uukkivi; Gary Hazlewood; Heather Anholt; Jane Carpenter; john easley; Ken and Elaine Johnson; Paul Morris; rob@mainstreetanimalhospital.ca; Tapscott, Brian (OMAFRA)
Cc: Samantha Babister; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Herd Health Documents

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Nancy

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 11:46 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: media request - fur farming - Last call for comments

Assuming these are ok to move fwd with?

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 3:08 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX; Phelps, Blair GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: media request - fur farming

Hi Jane/James, pls let me know your thoughts on the below suggestions.

From: Elizabeth McSheffrey [<mailto:elizabeth@thevancouverobserver.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 11:27 AM
To: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: re: media request - fur farming

Good morning Robert,

Thank you for taking my call. As I mentioned, my name is Elizabeth McSheffrey and I'm a reporter for the National Observer writing about Canada's fur farming industry.

I have a few questions for you today and am working with a Thursday deadline. I would love to speak with someone from within the Ministry over the phone before then.

- Why did the Ministry of Agriculture including Hon. Norm Letnick, Derek Sturko, James Mack, and Dr. Jane Pritchard cease email communication with the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (exec. director Lesley Fox) after their joint meeting on Oct. 13, 2015?

- The Ministry of Agriculture is always open to hearing from British Columbians about improving B.C.'s agrifoods sector, including animal welfare.
- That's why the Ministry of Agriculture met with the APFA to hear their comments and concerns in October, and Ministry staff have followed up with them directly since then.

- Why has the Ministry not adopted the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink and Fox into law, established a detailed plan for its enforcement, and given inspection powers for the BC SPCA for regular and unannounced inspections for all BC fur farms?

- The B.C. government does not tolerate any mistreatment of animals. That's why we updated the provincial Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in 2011 to have the toughest penalties in Canada.
- Charges under B.C.'s Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act can be laid against anyone who causes suffering or distress to an animal in British Columbia, including owners, managers and employees in the agriculture sector and on fur farms.

- The maximum penalties that can be levied under provincial legislation against a person who is convicted of causing distress to an animal is \$75,000 and up to 24 months imprisonment.
- The SPCA has the authority to investigate animal cruelty anywhere in British Columbia, including cases that involve domestic animals, farm animals or fur farms.
- In January 2015, the BC government a new Fur Farm Regulation came into effect, which replaced the 66 year old Fur Farm Act.
http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/8_2015
- The regulation sets out requirements for areas including health management plans, general health, food and water, pens and structure design.
- Under the new regulation, each mink farm licensed in BC will be inspected as a condition of relicensing.

The government should be a neutral body in the fur farm debate, yet it would appear that it has halted contact with a major negotiator (APFA), and favoured the industry by rescinding an offer to have APFA visit a B.C. fur farm with Dr. Jane Pritchard. Whether or not this is an indication of favour for the industry, it could certainly lead to public perception of favouritism. How do you account for these decisions?

- Fur Farming is a licensed agricultural activity in B.C. and the B.C. government has legislation and regulations in place that require all animals in British Columbia, to be treated with due care and respect.
- The Ministry of Agriculture offered to try and arrange a tour for an APFA representative to visit a farm, but was not successful in our efforts to arrange a tour.

Thanks very much for your time and consideration, I realize this is a tall order.
I look forward to hearing back from you.

Very best,
Elizabeth

ELIZABETH MCSHEFFREY

Reporter, The Vancouver Observer

Vancouver | British Columbia

(604) 837-7444

Twitter | Website | Blog

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 2:38 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: mink meeting...

Sounds right. Lesson learned is to each making these kind of commitments around the minister

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2015, at 2:30 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

What Lesley Fox is not forthcoming about.....

Industry reason for not allowing her at the meeting or on farm...

Leslie Fox is the Executive Director of Furbearers (Association for the Protection of Furbearing Animals), a group which is dedicated to ending (not improving) the fur trade and to banning fur farming. One of Furbearers' current campaigns is #MakeFurHistory, a campaign that calls on the government ban fur farming in Canada.

It would be a complete conflict of interest for Furbearers to be at a mink health and welfare meeting.

They are an animal-rights group, they do not seek to improve mink farming; they seek to ban it.

Lesley was not accurate when I asked her if she would be there to learn about mink farm as opposed to shutting mink farming down. It seems clear that she does not want to improve the welfare of mink within the concept of fur farming but to end the practice of fur farming.

Jane

Jane Pritchard

Director Plant and Animal Health Branch

Chief Veterinary Officer

(604)556-3013

1767 Angus Campbell Rd,

Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3



Where ideas work



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 26, 2015 10:42 AM
To: s.22,s.79
Subject: Inspection report
Attachments: Scan_20151126.pdf

Hi s.79

Thank you for taking the time to walk myself and Dr. Britton through your farm. We appreciate the efforts you have taken to change pens and correct some past issues on the farm. Your dad had volunteered to send some pictures of the two issues we found when corrected, however Dr. Pritchard has instructed me that follow up inspections are required when we find items to be addressed. I have noted those items on the attached report 1) An enrichment in each pen and, 2) mink in pens not meeting the minimum requirements in Table 2 of the Code of Practice be moved prior to re-licensing.

The Heard Health Management Plan has been approved.

Please contact me when a re-inspection can be scheduled or if you have any questions.

Have a great day.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: LEHARE [mailto:Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, November 26, 2015 10:15 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Scan From MPS1102



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date: November 25, 2015

Inspection Team: Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton

- ✓ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations.
- ✓ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ✓ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ✓ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- ✓ All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

done 4/7/16
Note: Sheds 6 – 9: Single mink in older bare pens are being moved by January 2016. Older pens being phased out and replaced throughout these sheds.

- X All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

done
✓ Note: No enrichments noted at the time of inspection.
Golf balls to be added to each pen in the following months.

Nest Boxes

- ✓ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ✓ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ✓ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

- ✓ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

- ✓ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ✓ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

- ✓ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.
- ✓ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

(feed is prepared off-site and trucked in)

Record Keeping

- ✓ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:
 - Vet-Client-Patient relationship
 - Mink Identification System
 - Vaccination and treatment records
 - Tracking mortalities
- ✓ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Request

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 12:22 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Request

Nope, not going to happen.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 11:57 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Request

Hello Lynette. Thanks for the Congrats!

To be honest with you, I don't think it's a good idea. Associations like this one only have 1 agenda - to put us out of business. I know for a fact that ranchers will leave the meeting if he is in attendance. Unfortunately I cannot help accommodate Jane's request. Sorry

s.79

On Oct 15, 2015, at 8:23 AM, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning^{s.79}

s.22

Dr. Pritchard asked me to contact you. She would like to invite Lesley Fox, Executive Director for The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals to tour a farm and attend our meeting on the 27th. Dr. Pritchard would like to dispel the myths and show case BC mink breeders as some of the best in the country. Is this something you would be interested in?

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<image003.jpg>

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Request

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 12:42 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Request

I think it would damage our relationship with the farmers if we tried that, to be honest. We'll lose their cooperation and trust.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 12:40 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Request

If SHE is at the meeting and I don't introduce her and she keeps her mouth shut, will he kill me?

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 12:22 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Request

Nope, not going to happen.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474



From: s.22,s.79

Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2015 11:57 AM

To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

Subject: Re: Request

Hello Lynette. Thanks for the Congrats!

To be honest with you, I don't think it's a good idea. Associations like this one only have 1 agenda - to put us out of business. I know for a fact that ranchers will leave the meeting if he is in attendance. Unfortunately I cannot help accommodate Jane's request. Sorry

s.79

On Oct 15, 2015, at 8:23 AM, Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good Morning^{s.79}

s.22

Dr. Pritchard asked me to contact you. She would like to invite Lesley Fox, Executive Director for The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals to tour a farm and attend our meeting on the 27th. Dr. Pritchard would like to dispel the myths and show case BC mink breeders as some of the best in the country. Is this something you would be interested in?

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation

Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<image003.jpg>

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Bill, Karen F AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 1:59 PM
To: Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX
Cc: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Smukowich, Don AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fwd: False promises & lack of objectivity re fur farms

Please cliff and action draft reply minister.
Karen

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Smukowich, Don AGRI:EX" <Don.Smukowich@gov.bc.ca>
Date: October 23, 2015 at 1:55:35 PM PDT
To: "Bill, Karen F AGRI:EX" <Karen.Bill@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fw: False promises & lack of objectivity re fur farms

FYI

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Lesley Fox <lesley@furbearerdefenders.com>
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 1:38 PM
To: Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX
Cc: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Smukowich, Don AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: False promises & lack of objectivity re fur farms

Dear Honourable Letnick,

This letter relates to our meeting held on Tuesday, October 12, 2015 regarding animal welfare concerns on BC's fur farms. As you may remember, Deputy Minister Derek Sturko, Executive Assistant Don Smukowich and Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Jane Pritchard (on speakerphone) also attended. (To maintain full transparency/communication, I have also CC'd them on this message).

At the meeting Dr. Pritchard advised that adopting the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink into law was not necessary as codes can 'become dated', but she offered reassurance saying that action has been taken to inspect and improve conditions on local fur farms. She even suggested that she was willing to personally escort me onto a local fur farm, and that I would be welcome to attend an upcoming industry meeting in Abbotsford. A bold gesture in front of you, Minister Letnick, to no doubt demonstrate a commitment to fully transparency and disclosure.

Since our meeting, both offers have been rescinded. Dr. Pritchard explained that she "had not realized that there was that deep a level of distrust between the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals and both the national and provincial mink farming associations."

In an effort to repair the public image of fur farms and to build connections between organizations, including the Ministry of Agriculture, transparency and honesty is crucial. Broken promises simply continue to fuel speculation, mistrust and skepticism. Furthermore, Dr. Pritchard's efforts to continually safeguard and protect the industry against what is falsely perceived to be some kind of "radical" organization such as ours is grossly erroneous and offensive.

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals is an above-ground organization and our activities are completely within the law. We also represent the views of tens of thousands of tax-paying

British Columbians who have legitimate and proven concerns about animals suffering on fur farms. **Unproductive government meetings, broken promises, lack of transparency and failure to adopt the Code of Practices for the Care and Handling of Mink only magnify our concerns. The current Animal Health Act is insufficient, and I am still unclear if the Ministry is taking steps to appoint a 3rd party to regularly inspect (unannounced) and enforce animal welfare standards on fur farms.**

In an effort to appease your voting public, manage media reports and to ensure the fur industry is fully compliant with the highest animal welfare standards possible, I encourage you to take immediate action to demonstrate a full commitment to involving all stakeholders in an ongoing, truthful and open dialogue about BC's fur farms. Failure to do so will only breed contempt.

I am extremely disappointed in the Ministry of Agriculture's overall response since footage of BC's fur farms were made public last fall.

I look forward to hearing from you and what actions you are going to take to rectify this situation.

Sincerely,

Lesley Fox

Executive Director

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals

179 W. Broadway

Vancouver, BC

V5Y 1P4

Tel: 604-435-1850

Cell: 778-892-5369

www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree

www.twitter.com/furbearers



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: cmba@ica.net
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 2:26 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fw: details

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Alan Herscovici
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 5:25 PM
To: cmba@ica.net
Subject: RE: details

I will send you more info, but this is the main point:

Leslie Fox is the Executive Director of Furbearers (Association for the Protection of Furbearing Animals), a group which is dedicated to ending (not improving) the fur trade and to banning fur farming. One of Furbearers' current campaigns is #MakeFurHistory, a campaign that calls on the government ban fur farming in Canada.

What type of meeting is Jane referring to?

If this meeting has anything to do with the mink industry, it would be a complete conflict of interest for Furbearers to be there.

And it is disturbing that the BC Agriculture Minister is not aware that this group is NOT an animal-welfare group; they are an animal-rights group.

In other words: they do not seek to improve mink farming; they seek to ban it.

-a/

From: cmba@ica.net [<mailto:cmba@ica.net>]
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 5:03 PM
To: Alan Herscovici
Subject: Fw: details

Hi Alan - any info that you can supply?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 5:00 PM
To: 's.22

Subject: details

I am in very hot water with my Minister for not being able to get Lesley Fox into the meeting next week. I need some details on how she has burned the mink industry previously to justify my position and I am really hoping that you can help me with that.

Thanks

Jane

Jane Pritchard

Director Plant and Animal Health Branch

Chief Veterinary Officer

(604)556-3013

1767 Angus Campbell Rd,

Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Nancy Daigneault <ndaigneault@iftf.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 12:50 PM
To: Tapscott, Brian (OMAFRA); Gary Hazlewood; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Herd Health Program

These are the emails I have for Ontario. If you would like to send to your contacts as well, I'd appreciate it.

From: Nancy Daigneault [mailto:ndaigneault@iftf.com]
Sent: December-17-15 3:43 PM
To: Alan Herscovici ;s.22,s.79 ; Gary Hazlewood ;s.22,s.79 ;
s.22,s.79 Tapscott, Brian
s.22,s.79
(OMAFRA) ;s.22,s.79
s.22,s.79
s.22,s.79 ; 'Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX' s.22,s.79 Heather Anholt
Cc: john easley
Subject: Herd Health Program

Dear Mink Rancher,

A brand new, fully subsidized herd health program is being made available to mink ranchers in Ontario, British Columbia and Manitoba for the upcoming year, thanks to funding from the International Fur federation (IFF) and industry partners. Funding is limited and will be used based on a first come first serve basis.

This mink herd health program will make a veterinarian available to you – at no charge - for two visits and a follow up report – to assist you with the health of your herd. This is a one year program. The veterinarians will work with you by providing you with a full report on herd health and anything else that may assist you with your day to day operations on your farm.

We are hoping this initiative can be developed further in the future but it is dependent on producer involvement and feedback on the program's application to farm performance. We are hopeful that the program will be available for other producing provinces next year.

~~This program is **FREE** and is designed to help you with your individual needs on your farm. if you are interested in participating, **please contact me via email or cell phone (number below)**. I will then pass along the names of the participating veterinarians to you.~~

Nancy Daigneault
International Fur Federation
V.P. Americas
ndaigneault@iftf.com
Cell: 647-532-6212

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: media request - fur farming

Good morning Jane, can you have a peek at these this morning please

From: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 3:08 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX; Phelps, Blair GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: media request - fur farming

Hi Jane/James, pls let me know your thoughts on the below suggestions.

From: Elizabeth McSheffrey [<mailto:elizabeth@thevancouverobserver.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 11:27 AM
To: Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX
Subject: re: media request - fur farming

Good morning Robert,

Thank you for taking my call. As I mentioned, my name is Elizabeth McSheffrey and I'm a reporter for the National Observer writing about Canada's fur farming industry.

I have a few questions for you today and am working with a Thursday deadline. I would love to speak with someone from within the Ministry over the phone before then.

- Why did the Ministry of Agriculture including Hon. Norm Letnick, Derek Sturko, James Mack, and Dr. Jane Pritchard cease email communication with the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (exec. director Lesley Fox) after their joint meeting on Oct. 13, 2015?

- The Ministry of Agriculture is always open to hearing from British Columbians about improving B.C.'s agrifoods sector, including animal welfare.
- That's why the Ministry of Agriculture met with the APFA to hear their comments and concerns in October, and Ministry staff have followed up with them directly since then.

- Why has the Ministry not adopted the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink and Fox into law, established a detailed plan for its enforcement, and given inspection powers for the BC SPCA for regular and unannounced inspections for all BC fur farms?

- The B.C. government does not tolerate any mistreatment of animals. That's why we updated the provincial Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in 2011 to have the toughest penalties in Canada.
- Charges under B.C.'s Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act can be laid against anyone who causes suffering or distress to an animal in British Columbia, including owners, managers and employees in the agriculture sector and on fur farms.

Dear Mink Rancher,

A brand new, fully subsidized herd health program is being made available to mink ranchers in Ontario, British Columbia and Manitoba for the upcoming year, thanks to funding from the International Fur Federation (IFF) and industry partners. Funding is limited and will be used based on a first come first serve basis.

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This program is **FREE** and is designed to help you with your individual needs on your farm. If you are interested in participating, **please contact me via email or cell phone (number below)**. I will then pass along the names of the participating veterinarians to you.

Nancy Daigneault
International Fur Federation
V.P. Americas
ndaigneault@iff.com
Cell: 647-532-6212

MINK FARMS AND ANIMAL WELFARE**RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:**

- In July of 2014, the BCSPCA initiated an investigation of two mink farms in the Fraser Valley following the receipt of an 'under-cover' video.
- The Chief Veterinarian of the province accompanied the BCSPCA and facilitated the on farm investigations on the two suspected farms, then worked with the farms to ensure that the recommendations of the BCSPCA were complied with.
- No charges came out of the investigation.
- The Province of British Columbia recently revised the regulatory requirements governing the licensing of mink farms in the province with the introduction of the new Fur Farm Regulation (Regulation) under the new Animal Health Act. These came into force on January 16th 2015.
- The new regulatory requirements include a written animal health plan, approved by the Chief Veterinarian to be in place on each farm. That plan must cover treatment protocols, euthanasia protocol, and record keeping of treatments and deaths on the farm.
- The new Regulation also sets standards for pens and enhancements of pens that align with the National Code of Practice for Fur Farming.
- The Ministry is working with industry to bring these new requirements into effect quickly; inspections will be carried out by Ministry staff to confirm that they are in place.

Approved by: Lorie Hrycuik	Prepared by:	Alternate Contact:
ADM: James Mack	Name: Jane Pritchard	Name: N/A
Date approved by ADM: 02/10/2015	Branch: Plant and Animal Health Branch	Branch:
Phone: 250-356-1821	Phone: 604-556-3013	Phone:
Cell: 250-415-1762	Cell: 604-313-0223	Cell:



Ministry of
Agriculture

COPY

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date: **October 28, 2015**

Inspection Team: **Lynette Hare and Dr. Ann Britton**

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens **Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice**

- ☒ ~~All pens with multiple mink must be enhanced with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)~~
~~If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.~~
- All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)*

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☐ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☐ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☐ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

feed supplied
by Dogwood

Record Keeping

☐ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

to be submitted
prior to Mar/2016
Licensing.

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Daniel Schwartz <Daniel.Schwartz@inspection.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 26, 2015 8:25 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Article on mink in BC

Hi Jane

It happens to us and I debated whether to send it to you but felt it was better you are aware in case someone comes to you in the future.

How are things going with you? I heard you have a new avian pathologist on board which is good. We are still struggling to find our way forward as the agency work through this transformation of ours. It should settle itself out but it is somewhat chaotic.

Thanks
Daniel

>>> "Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX" <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> 2015-11-25 9:38 PM >>>
Thanks Daniel, was aware of it. Bit of a shock, but life goes on .
Jane

Jane Pritchard
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
British Columbia

> On Nov 25, 2015, at 5:03 PM, Daniel Schwartz <Daniel.Schwartz@inspection.gc.ca> wrote:

>
> Hi Jane
> I came across this while doing work on another project. I thought I would bring it to your attention as there are copies of email discussions pasted in it. I wish I had been able to participate and provide another perspective on the industry, however, individuals will collect, print and post what suits their needs.

>
> Hope all is well
> Daniel

>
> <http://www.nationalobserver.com/2015/11/18/behind-bars-canadas-fur-farmed-mink-and-fox>
>

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 9:20 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Dewith, Nancy AGRI:EX; Radke, Brian AGRI:EX; Himsworth, Chelsea AGRI:EX; Joseph, Tomy AGRI:EX; McGregor, Glenna AGRI:EX
Subject: mink meeting Tues

Has been moved to the Ramada Inn, Parallel Rd

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Livestock Health Management & Regulation
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3



Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 1:47 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: False promises & lack of objectivity re fur farms

Importance: High

Fyi...also...

From: Lesley Fox [mailto:lesley@furbearerdefenders.com]
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 1:39 PM
To: Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX
Cc: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Smukowich, Don AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: False promises & lack of objectivity re fur farms
Importance: High

Dear Honourable Letnick,

This letter relates to our meeting held on Tuesday, October 12, 2015 regarding animal welfare concerns on BC's fur farms. As you may remember, Deputy Minister Derek Sturko, Executive Assistant Don Smukowich and Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Jane Pritchard (on speakerphone) also attended. (To maintain full transparency/communication, I have also CCd them on this message).

At the meeting Dr. Pritchard advised that adopting the Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Mink into law was not necessary as codes can 'become dated', but she offered reassurance saying that action has been taken to inspect and improve conditions on local fur farms. She even suggested that she was willing to personally escort me onto a local fur farm, and that I would be welcome to attend an upcoming industry meeting in Abbotsford. A bold gesture in front of you, Minister Letnick, to no doubt demonstrate a commitment to fully transparency and disclosure.

Since our meeting, both offers have been rescinded. Dr. Pritchard explained that she "had not realized that there was that deep a level of distrust between the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals and both the national and provincial mink farming associations."

In an effort to repair the public image of fur farms and to build connections between organizations, including the Ministry of Agriculture, transparency and honesty is crucial. Broken promises simply continue to fuel speculation, mistrust and skepticism. Furthermore, Dr. Pritchard's efforts to continually safeguard and protect the industry against what is falsely perceived to be some kind of "radical" organization such as ours is grossly erroneous and offensive.

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals is an above-ground organization and our activities are completely within the law. We also represent the views of tens of thousands of tax-paying British Columbians who have legitimate and proven concerns about animals suffering on fur farms. **Unproductive government meetings, broken promises, lack of transparency and failure to adopt the Code of Practices for the Care and Handling of Mink only magnify our concerns.** The current Animal Health Act is insufficient, and I am still unclear if the Ministry is taking steps to appoint a 3rd party to regularly inspect (unannounced) and enforce animal welfare standards on fur farms.

In an effort to appease your voting public, manage media reports and to ensure the fur industry is fully compliant with the highest animal welfare standards possible, I encourage you to take immediate action to demonstrate a full

commitment to involving all stakeholders in an ongoing, truthful and open dialogue about BC's fur farms. Failure to do so will only breed contempt.

I am extremely disappointed in the Ministry of Agriculture's overall response since footage of BC's fur farms were made public last fall.

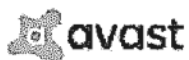
I look forward to hearing from you and what actions you are going to take to rectify this situation.

Sincerely,

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1P4
Tel: 604-435-1850
Cell: 778-892-5369
www.furbearerdefenders.com

You can also follow us at:

www.facebook.com/furfree
www.twitter.com/furbearers



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 1:47 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Sadly removing the offer to attend.

fyi

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 11:43 AM
To: 'Lesley Fox'
Cc: Mack, James AGRI:EX
Subject: Sadly removing the offer to attend.

Lesley,

Sadly the industry is very opposed to you attending their meeting, even briefly. It would seem that there is a rather bad relationship between these two organizations that I would need some time to bridge.

I had not realized that there was that deep a level of distrust between the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals and both the National and Provincial mink farming associations.

Something to work on, many apologies for jumping the gun with the invitation. I am certainly very proud of the actions of the BC mink farmers and I believe that this meeting is representative of their proactive approach to the health and welfare of farmed mink.

Sincerely
Jane

Jane Pritchard
Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3



Where ideas work





Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

September 16, 2015 – Lynette Hare

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- ☒ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014) ** NO*
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

*All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013) * NO*

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

*nest box part
of 243?*

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☐ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

7 N2 p10

☐ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Geoff Urton <gurton@spca.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2015 11:10 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Shawn Eccles
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Reg

Hi All,

I wanted to drop you a quick note to say thank you again for meeting with us last week. You guys have made so much progress and it's very encouraging to hear.

Thanks also for passing along your inspection checklist. After having a look at it here, there are a few additional points I thought I'd float for your consideration.

Of course there is a lot of Code content that is not necessarily in your reg, and so perhaps out of scope, but there were a few additional items related to basic animal that seem important enough to me that it would be valuable to include in your checklist:

- each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food
- space allowance: the reg refers to "sufficient size to accommodate, comfortably at the same time". Using the space allowances specifically from the Code would provide a definitive measurement for that.
- A euthanasia plan is required under the reg, and I imagine those would then need to demonstrate adherence to the Code requirement of using CO from a cylinder only (as an aside, is this the standard practice here yet?)
- There is a health assessment requirement in the reg, and it would be great if the checklist extended this to clearly indicate the Code requirement: "Mink that are exhibiting clinical signs of illness, injury, pain, or suffering must be provided with immediate medical care or be immediately euthanized when treatment is not appropriate. If it is determined that mink exhibiting clinical signs of illness, injury, pain, or suffering are not responding to treatment, the mink must be euthanized immediately

I will also be helpful down the road when the CMBA has their own assessment program developed (still awaiting funding from AAFC as far as I know), and so once that's complete, they would have an assessment tool that could be a real benefit to you as well.

Thanks again and talk soon,

Geoff

Geoff Urton, BSc (Ag), MSc
Senior Manager, Stakeholder Relations
BCSPCA
1245 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5T 1R1
604.647.6404
1.800.665.1868 • gurton@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

Connect with us online!    

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

**The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit charitable organization reliant on donations from the public.
Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001**

This message and any attachments or links are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged and confidential information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and destroy the original message. Thank you.

From: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX [mailto:Ann.P.Britton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: July-06-15 4:10 PM
To: Shawn Eccles; Geoff Urton; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Reg

Let's try for July 13. Lynette – does that work for you?

Cheers
Ann

From: Shawn Eccles [mailto:seccles@spca.bc.ca]
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2015 2:04 PM
To: Geoff Urton; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Reg

Friday is actually the 24th, either date works for me

Cheers!

Shawn

**Shawn Eccles
Senior Manager, Cruelty Investigations
BC SPCA**

1245 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5T 1R1
604.709.4668
1.800.665.1868 • seccles@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca
Animal Cruelty Hotline 1-855-622-7722

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

**The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit organization reliant on donations from the public.
Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001**

This message and any attachments or links are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged and confidential information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and destroy the original message. Thank you.

From: Geoff Urton
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 1:11 PM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Shawn Eccles
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Reg

Hi Anne,

Now it looks like the two best slots for me and Shawn coming up are:

Monday July 13 or Friday July 25th, both days 1-3pm

Let me know if either will work for you guys. Thanks!

Geoff

From: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX [<mailto:Ann.P.Britton@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: July-06-15 12:49 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Geoff Urton; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Shawn Eccles
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Reg

Hello all,

July 23 won't work for me as I am on PM duty all that week.

Is there another date that will work?

Cheers
Ann

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2015 12:26 PM
To: 'Geoff Urton'; Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Shawn Eccles
Subject: RE: Fur Farm Reg

From: Geoff Urton [<mailto:gurton@spca.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2015 12:21 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Shawn Eccles
Subject: Re: Fur Farm Reg

Thanks, Jane!

Could you connect us with them by email to set something up?

On Jul 6, 2015, at 11:34 AM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Things have changed a bit, but not settled. s.22

s.22 I do not think I will be back by then, leaving next week, back the week after but dates are a tad fluid.
You could go ahead and meet with Ann and Lynette though, as indicated they are doing the inspections.
Heather could also be included.

Apologies,

From: Geoff Urton [mailto:gurton@sPCA.bc.ca]
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2015 11:15 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Cc: Shawn Eccles
Subject: Re: Fur Farm Reg

Hi Jane,

Could we set this for July 23rd at 1:30pm?

Shawn and I would both be coming.

Geoff

On Jul 2, 2015, at 3:19 PM, Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

I am in Victoria next Wednesday, I would rather be in Surrey but not possible.

Any afternoon for the 21-23 window, but no mornings available.

Ann Britton and Lynette are doing the inspections jointly. Also we have a private veterinarian engaged to support the industry, Heather Anholt. She has been to a few meetings with Canadian Mink Breeders where specialists have been brought in and will be attending the national mink Banff meeting. She is getting good support from BC industry and from national industry to get her up to date on mink. I expect Heather to become more engaged in this as well. Perhaps she could also attend? She is anticipating 1 day a week to dedicate to mink.

Jane

From: Geoff Urton [mailto:gurton@sPCA.bc.ca]
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2015 3:02 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fur Farm Reg

Hi Jane,

I hope you're coping with this weather! I can't imagine what it's like in the valley.

I just wanted to follow up about the fur farm reg and see if we could come in to meet with you to get an update on inspections of licensees.

When we sent this initial letter (attached), we requested the opportunity for joint inspections to ensure there were no other egregious issues, and now that the reg is in place, I thought it would be a good time to touch base about that idea.

July 21-23 would work well for us for this, but there are a few other dates this month that could work too, in case those aren't the best for you.

Also, will you be at the dairy reg announcement next Wednesday? We just had a phone call this morning with MoA comms and the event is all coming together to take place at 2:30 at our Surrey large animal facility. It would be great to see you in case you're able to be there!

Cheers,
Geoff

Geoff Urton
Senior Manager, Stakeholder Relations
BCSPCA
1245 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5T 1R1
604.647.6404
1.800.665.1868 • gurton@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

Connect with us online! 

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit charitable organization reliant on donations from the public.

Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001

This message and any attachments or links are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged and confidential information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and destroy the original message. Thank you.



June 23, 2015

s.79

COPY

Thank you for taking time out of your schedules to walk myself and Dr. Britton through your farms on Friday. We found both farms to meet or exceed the Ministry's expectations and both farms represent your industry well.

Dr. Pritchard has approved the Herd Health Management Plan you submitted and it will be kept on your file with a copy of the enclosed check list.

Thank you again, and all the best.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Pc Dr. Ann Britton
Dr. Jane Pritchard

Encl.

s.22, s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

s.79

Site Location:

Date:

June 19, 2015 – Dr. Ann Britton, Lynette Hare

COPY

☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

☒ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

** working on it*

All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

approved by
Dr. Pritchard
& on file

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



June 23, 2015

s.79

Copy

Thank you for taking time out of your schedules to walk myself and Dr. Britton through your farms on Friday. We found both farms to meet or exceed the Ministry's expectations and both farms represent your industry well.

Dr. Pritchard has approved the Herd Health Management Plan you submitted and it will be kept on your file with a copy of the enclosed check list.

Thank you again, and all the best.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Pc Dr. Ann Britton
Dr. Jane Pritchard

Encl.

s.22,s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

COPY

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

June 19, 2015 – Dr. Ann Britton, Lynette Hare

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- ☒ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.
- ☒ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

*all feed prepared
at what can be
seen -*

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

*and all records
are kept in the
proper way
in the building*

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



May 21, 2015

s.79

COPY

Thank you for taking the time out of your schedules to walk Ann and myself through your farms on Tuesday. We appreciate the considerable effort it must take to manage these farms and both operations represent your industry well and are very impressive.

I have enclosed a copy of the checklist we use for your records. The enrichment for each cage with no shelf or nest box is in process, as discussed, and a Health Plan to be submitted when complete.

Thank you again, and all the best with s.22

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Pc Dr. Ann Britton
Dr. Jane Pritchard



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

May 19, 2015 – Dr. Ann Britton, Lynette Hare



Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations.



Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing



Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.



Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice



All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June 2014)
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.



All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)

Nest Boxes



Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.



Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.



If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

for bare cages -

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☐ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly. ?

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☐ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including: *to be submitted*

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- ☒ • Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- ☒ • Tracking mortalities

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2015 4:15 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Subject: s.79 inspection

s.79 is asking for his inspection.. s.22

I do not have time until mid June....you two however may be able to accommodate earlier.

We need a copy of the health plan but we were going to use it as a start so that the license would go ahead unless the health plan was really outrageously bad or did not relate in any way to what you observe on the farm.

Jane

Jane Pritchard
Director Plant and Animal Health Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer
(604)556-3013
1767 Angus Campbell Rd,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G2M3



Where ideas work



s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

s.79

Site Location:

Date:

May 19, 2015 – Dr. Ann Britton, Lynette Hare

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

- ☐ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June 2014) *If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.*

All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013) ✕

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
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Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☐ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☐ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☐ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

*in last completed
+ 30, 60, 90 days*

☐ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



Ministry of
Agriculture

March 4, 2015

TO: Fur Farmers of BC

RE: Requirements for 2016 Licensing

Thank you to those who were able to attend the BC Mink Producers meeting last month. Your participation and input were greatly appreciated. I have enclosed copies of Dr. Britton's and my presentation, as well as a summary of the legislative changes to the Fur Farm Regulations.

As discussed at the meeting, prior to relicensing for the 2016 year, the following requirements must be met:

- **Health Management Plan** submitted to my office for pre-approval. This plan must include your veterinarian's name, vaccination schedule, treatment, records, isolation and euthanasia methods.
- **An inspection** of every farm will be made to ensure pen size, hammock, shelf, nest box, enrichment, etc. are aligned with the standards set out by the Canadian National Code of Practice. Considerations will be made as long as progress is clearly being made. Inspections will be done as each farm makes a request to our office.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Dr. Jane Pritchard,
Chief Veterinary Officer

Encl.

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:23 AM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: AI & s.79 Poultry

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:22 AM
To: s.22
Subject: RE: AI & s.79 Poultry

Thank you for your letter.

We are looking into having a medication licensed for mink that prevents flies hatching in their manure which would drastically reduce the fly population at any farm. Additionally the fur farm act has been rewritten under the animal health act as a regulation and now allows us greater influence on fur farms.

AS to Avian Influenza, I am disappointed that when you had an issue in your flock it was not tested for Avian Influenza, not testing and having the virus puts many flocks at a serious risk especially if the birds are being handled by catching crews and are being transported.

As this outbreak occurred due to a high path AI virus coming into barns directly from migratory and resident wild waterfowl, the most important control point for biosecurity on any poultry barn is the door to the barn. We must now assume that every farm yard is contaminated directly from wild waterfowl and that the highest biosecurity must be taken when entering a barn. Clothing and footwear worn in the barn must be only worn in the barn, and must be kept very clean. No exceptions, no stepping in just for a second, no accidentally allowing a cat or dog into the entry way. The industry must be extremely careful on this point. Any bird, any rodent can also carry the virus into your barn from a puddle contaminated by a duck. All ventilation openings are a risk for small birds bringing in the virus even.

Although we know that dogs and cats and of course wild waterfowl can carry this virus, we have not had evidence that mink can.

Thank you for your interest, these are challenging times for poultry producers.

Jane Pritchard.

From: s.22,s.79
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 8:22 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: AI & s.79 Poultry

Hello Dr.Pritchard

The attachment is about AI- past and present.

I look forward to your comments

Regards ,

Dear Dr. Pritchard,

February 23, 2015

This is a response to comments made in updates from CFIA reports to growers.

As you know, I have questions about the impact the mink farm next door has had on my health and possibly that of our chickens as well. In view of the current AI issue, I think it is important to bring to your attention something that happened to our chickens a year or two prior to the last AI outbreak. Our birds (scheduled to be shipped the next day) were hit with a mysterious disease where mortality rapidly shot up to 10 birds an hour in a flock of 15000 birds. Veterinarians responded vigorously and quickly. Many tests were done but a cause was not identified. At the time ^{s.79} (founder and owner of ^{s.22}) thought that AI was a strong possibility. It is relevant that at that time the birds were not tested for AI. For the record this outbreak occurred in the fall (mid November?).

This experience preceded a horrendous fly (Cluster Flies?) problem a year or two later. This was followed by my game changing illness soon after that. In retrospect I think that the Mink farm had changed hands by that time and that ^{s.79} had become the new owner! It's worth pointing out that in the nineteen years prior to that time, we never had a single problem that would have implicated the mink farm. As far as we knew, the farm was well run and at no time did we perceive it to be a liability.

A number of items in reports sent to growers during the AI outbreak are consistent with my perception that the mink farm is now a liability to the health of my family and to our broiler operation! Two items of special interest in terms of human health are listed below

1 The increase in the number of farms affected by the AI virus is not unexpected given the virulence of the virus and the fact that we don't know how it is spread. There is a lot of epidemiology going on to try to figure out what is going on.

2. From Update NO. 16 (December 17, 2014) If someone with human influenza also becomes infected with avian influenza, there is chance e that the virus could mingle and turn onto a new virus that spreads easily from person to person (ie a pandemic influenza).

The fact that security personnel (CFIA) were concerned about coyotes crossing boundary lines supports my premise that disease may have been carried to our farm by flies, coyotes and/or other wild animals including seagulls.

A huge effort by a lot of people has been devoted to controlling the AI outbreak. My question: Why isn't more being done to eliminate potential problems on other farms? I think there is a need for more government control in situations like this.

A closing comment: while I'm washing and spraying tires of our vehicles to protect against AI, the virus has free access to our farm via seagulls that continue to be attracted to the Mink Farm. Bottom line- we have two farms side by side but operating with a different set of rules and expectations. Sustainability is compromised when protocols conflict.

I would appreciate any comments and/or advice you have

Regards,

s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License.

Prior to submitting your renewal form, please ensure the following items have been addressed as a 2016 license cannot be issued with these items outstanding:

- Herd Health Management Plan submitted for approval by the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, Dr. Pritchard.
- Farm Inspection

Please contact me at the number listed below to schedule a farm inspection. The HHP can be emailed lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, faxed or mailed. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

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Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

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Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License.

Our records indicate a follow-up inspection is required prior to licensing. Please contact me prior to March 31st and we can arrange a suitable time.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

* Follow up inspection
April 7/16 all
items addressed
& licence issued.



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 2, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License.

Prior to submitting your renewal form, please ensure the following items have been addressed as a 2016 license cannot be issued with these items outstanding:

- Herd Health Management Plan submitted for approval by the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, Dr. Pritchard.
- Farm Inspection

Please contact me at the number listed below to schedule a farm inspection. The HHP can be emailed lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, faxed or mailed. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

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- Herd Health Management Plan submitted for approval by the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, Dr. Pritchard.
- Farm Inspection

Please contact me at the number listed below to schedule a farm inspection. The HHP can be emailed lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, faxed or mailed. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Our records indicate your farms have fulfilled the 2016 licensing requirements as follows:

- Herd Health Plan approved by Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinarian
- Farm Inspections

Enclosed please find the renewal forms for your 2016 Fur Farm Licenses.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License.

Our records indicate a Herd Health Plan to be approved by Dr. Pritchard is still outstanding and one of the requirements for licensing in 2016. Please email lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, or fax (604) 556-3015 the HHP prior to submitting your renewal application.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

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Our records indicate a Herd Health Plan to be approved by Dr. Pritchard is still outstanding and one of the requirements for licensing in 2016. Please email lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, or fax (604) 556-3015 the HHP prior to submitting your renewal application.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

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Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License.

Our records indicate a Herd Health Plan to be approved by Dr. Pritchard is still outstanding and one of the requirements for licensing in 2016. Please email lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, or fax (604) 556-3015 the HHP prior to submitting your renewal application.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Dear ^{s.79}

Thank you for meeting with Dr. Britton and myself on January 19, 2016. Your farm is an excellent example to the mink industry and there were no issues to be addressed. Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License and a copy of your inspection form.

As discussed, the Herd Health Plan required a few amendments to be approved by Dr. Pritchard. Please email lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca, or fax (604) 556-3015 the HHP prior to submitting your renewal application.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Thank you for walking us through your sheds, we appreciate this can be time consuming for the farmers. I have enclosed your inspection forms and note which items are in progress.

The only outstanding requirement for the 2016 licensing year is the Herd Health Plan, to be submitted and approved by Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinarian prior to licensing. Please email or fax your HHP to my attention when this is complete, lynette.hare@gov.bc.ca , fax (604) 556-3015.

I have also enclosed your renewal forms which can be submitted after the HHP is approved.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Our records indicate your farms have fulfilled the 2016 licensing requirements as follows:

- Herd Health Plan approved by Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinarian
- Farm Inspections

Enclosed please find the renewal forms for your 2016 Fur Farm Licenses.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Our records indicate your farm has fulfilled the 2016 licensing requirements as follows:

- Herd Health Plan approved by Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinarian
- Farm Inspection

Enclosed please find the renewal form for your 2016 Fur Farm License.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator



Ministry of
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

COPY

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Our records indicate your farms have fulfilled the 2016 licensing requirements as follows:

- Herd Health Plan approved by Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinarian
- Farm Inspections

Enclosed please find the renewal forms for your 2016 Fur Farm Licenses.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

**Ministry of Agriculture
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION**

Ref: 180612

Date: August 25, 2014

Issue: Investigation to substantiate a charge of animal cruelty against two Mink farms in the Fraser Valley.

Background:

- In July 2014, unknown persons gained access at night to two mink farms in the Fraser Valley:

s.79

- Photos and videos of mink on both farms were taken at night and through a lawyer, were presented to the BCSPCA to substantiate a charge of animal cruelty against both farms. An investigation was initiated by the BCSPCA with on farm visits scheduled for August 14, 2014 with s.79 and August 15, 2014 with s.79
- Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinary Officer for the Province, accompanied the BCSPCA to both sites, introduced the investigators and facilitated access without having to resort to a warrant. She remained and observed the investigation, which included observation of every animal on each site (over 70,000 at s.79 about 35,000 at s.79)

First Nations Considerations: N/A

Discussion:

- The mink industry has been in place in BC for a very long time and has been regulated under the current *Fur Farm Act* since 1996. The regulation of this industry will move to a new Fur Farm Regulation under the new *Animal Health Act* when that Act is brought into force.
- Currently, 15 farms are licensed with capacity for approximately 14,000 breeding males and 75,000 breeding females. Cages to accommodate litters of an average of 6 kits per breeding female are expected to be on the premise.
- Farms are predominantly in the Fraser Valley (close to a food source of waste fish products), but there is also one new operation in the Kootenays, just north of Fernie.
- There is one license application that has not been granted, also in the Fraser Valley. It is outstanding only due to issues with vacations around the one staff member that carries out the processing of license applications.
- Farmed mink play an important role in the agricultural chain, consuming large quantities of by-products from the production of human food. In BC, that is primarily waste from salmon, but also discarded eggs, spent hens and other waste products are consumed by mink.
- Furs are gathered, sorted by quality and colour and sold by auction in these sorted lots on a national level. Fur farmers generally have only one payday a year. Currently, the price has dropped considerably due to the severe loss of the Chinese/Asian market. A high luxury tax was recently brought in for the import of mink pelts or clothing. Currently, producers are forecasting a \$10 per animal loss.

Investigation results:

- The investigation at the first farm resulted in 16 orders (notices of distress) concerning the mink and one for the owner's son's dog. The investigation at the second farm resulted in 3 orders (notices of distress) concerning the mink.

- On both farms, one individual mink was found to have hind limb weakness or paralysis and was ordered destroyed immediately as it was considered to be in critical distress.
- The orders have been summarized in a recent letter to the Minister from the BCSPCA (Appendix A), and reflective of what Dr. Pritchard heard when they were delivered. A summary of their reports and orders are in Appendix B.

Next Steps:

- **Communication** –

- Dr. Pritchard believes the video will be released to the media as part of a national anti-fur farming campaign in early September.
- A response should be prepared in advance of the Labour Day weekend. Suggested points:
 - Government has taken steps to incorporate requirements of the mink code into the new Fur Farm Reg under the *Animal Health Act*.
 - Government has reached out to the mink industry to support them in making positive changes to benefit the welfare of mink.
 - Staff from the Plant and Animal Health Branch have carried out inspections, but are currently limited by the minimal requirements under the current *Fur Farm Act*.
 - The practice of fur farming as a regulated activity.

- **Inspections** –

- With the expanded requirements under the new Regulation, Ministry staff would fully inform and educate the 15/16 license holders on the new expectations and then, without the BCSPCA, conduct inspections of each farm (as time allows).
- Inspecting licensed and regulated activities are constrained due to fiscal limitations.

- **Codes** –

- Mink standards are consistent with the intent of the new *Animal Health Act*. There is no reference to the Code in the Act. The Code is referred to in policy when discussing issues with license holders or new applicants.

Contact: Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinary Officer;
Director, Plant and Animal Health Branch, 604 556-3013

DIR JP ADM JM DM DS

Appendix A

Industry

Mink are raised in wire cages, being exposed to cold temperature and kept clean of any manure build up are extremely important in the production of quality pelts. Mink are not naturally cuddly, they are a predator. Decades of breeding have made them quite compliant in cages and most owners trust their mink well enough to poke fingers in at them and lift them out of cages unprotected. They are however not pets and should always be handled with caution. Males and females are put together for mating in March. Each female produces from 5 to 8 kits after a mean gestation period of 49 to 51 days. Mink are unusual in that the gestation period range is from 39 to 61 days for reasons not relevant here. Kits are weaned between 6 and 10 weeks of age. Kits are kept in social groups as much as possible as this improves their demeanor. By October most are down to pairs or individuals in cages.

Mink molt in late summer early fall and have their prime winter coat in November/December. Producers wait as long as possible to pelt mink so that time can be spent selecting the mink that will be kept to breed in the coming month of March. Breeding animals are selected on various traits. It is unusual but possible for a breeding animal to remain active for up to 10 years, but most are less than 3 years of age.

Farmed mink play an important role in the agricultural chain, consuming large quantities of by-products from the production of human food, in BC that is primarily waste from salmon, but also discarded eggs, spent hens and other waste products are consumed by mink.

The by-products from fish that are unsuitable for human consumption, and those which are not sold to fur farms or pet-food producers must be disposed of, typically in landfills. By buying these by-products, fur farms reduce the waste generated by human food production, and also provide a source of revenue for other agricultural producers, effectively subsidizing food costs for consumers. Although fur is the primary product of farming, nothing is wasted. An important secondary product is a highly valued oil produced from the mink's thick layer of subcutaneous fat. Mink oil is used to condition and preserve leather, and also in the manufacturing of hypoallergenic facial oils and cosmetics.

Furs are gathered, sorted by quality and colour and sold by auction in these sorted lots on a national level. Fur farmers generally have but one pay day a year. Currently, the price has dropped through the floor due to the severe loss of the Chinese/Asian market. A high luxury tax was recently brought in for the import of mink pelts or clothing. Currently, producers are forecasting a \$10 per animal loss.

Health

A considerable amount of loss occurs due to a single endemic disease of mink, Aleutian Disease. This is a Parvovirus disease that is unique in its expression in mink. Mink that are carrying the recessive gene for a distinctive blue grey colour, referred to as Aleutian, are much more susceptible to this disease than those mink that do not carry this colour gene.

Aleutian Disease results in reproductive failure, death of new-born mink and multiple syndromes later in life with signs such as: eating normally but becoming extremely thin, suddenly showing weakness in the hind quarters, or paralysis, sudden pneumonia as well persistent non-clinical carriage and shedding. A test is available to determine infected animals. This test, when used, is carried out seasonally to determine the disease status of mink being considered for breeding. The test is available for the mink industry at the Abbotsford Animal Health Centre (cost to producer is \$0.80 per sample, prior to last mink breeding season we did \$17,200 worth of testing).

There are no vaccines for this disease. Most other diseases of significance in mink have vaccines available that are commonly used in the industry to prevent losses. Considerable attention is paid to body and coat condition in ranch mink. Mink must not be overly heavy or they will not breed properly, but there is great benefit for them having abundant fat deposits at pelting. The pelt is the ultimate product of this industry.

DRAFT

Appendix A



PROVINCIAL OFFICE

1245 East 7th Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia, V5T 1R1
P 604.681.7271 • F 604.681.7022 • 1.800.665.1868 • spca.bc.ca
Charitable Registration # BN 11881 9036 RR0001

August 20th, 2014

The Honourable Norm Letnick, M.L.A.
Minister of Agriculture
PO BOX 9041 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

RE: B.C. mink farm investigation and adoption of Codes of Practice

Dear Minister Letnick:

I am writing to thank you and your staff for continued collaboration on addressing recent complaints of animal cruelty on B.C. farms and to raise an additional concern with you for further dialogue. After reading this letter, I am confident you will agree that it is now time to take prompt steps to ensure all animal agriculture sectors in B.C. are adhering to their own Codes of Practice.

On August 14th and 15th, 2014 BC SPCA Special Provincial Constables, with the support of a licensed veterinarian, attended to two commercial mink farms in the Fraser Valley area upon receiving a complaint, and conducted inspections in partnership with B.C. Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Jane Pritchard. The complaint was in the form of video and photographs documenting concerning conditions forwarded to us anonymously from individuals who had gained surreptitious access to the farms in question. We have been told that the individuals who provided the evidence to us have also shared it with another organisation that plans to make it public in the fall in order to raise public concern about fur farming practices in B.C.

Conditions on one of these farms were appalling and inexcusable, including the presence of more than a hundred animals with wounds, injuries and missing digits and limbs that had not received medical treatment. One animal was found paralyzed and in critical distress and was euthanized on-site immediately. This animal and one of four further dead animals found in cages that day were taken for necropsy by Dr. Pritchard.

Our Special Provincial Constables issued 17 orders (notices of distress) for this owner to come into compliance with the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act*, supported by the requirements from the Canadian Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink. These orders pertained to severe non-compliance with regard to animal health, overcrowding of animals, unsanitary conditions, water cleanliness, euthanasia methods, a complete lack of environmental enrichment and insufficient training of staff to recognize these concerns. We will be following up in due course to determine whether these orders are complied with and to determine whether a recommendation for charges under the PCA Act is appropriate.

We understand through Ministry staff that this farm represents average mink farm management practices in B.C., and that the owner was a member of the Mink Code of Practice Committee and a

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Appendix A (Cont.)

former president of the Canadian Mink Breeders Association. That conditions so sub-standard to industry's own Code of Practice could exist on a typical commercial farm operated by an industry leader who helped develop the Code itself causes us grave concern for the well-being of animals raised on other operations around the province. This indicates to us very clearly that the existence of voluntary Codes of Practice without third-party oversight is insufficient to ensure minimum standards of animal welfare on farms.

We feel strongly that the public credibility of B.C.'s animal agriculture sector is at jeopardy, particularly with further vulnerabilities in the auctioning and transport of animals. We were recently informed that retail sale losses in the dairy sector amounted to \$1 million in the month of June alone in response to the dairy abuse case in Chilliwack. We anticipate further domestic and export market losses if measures are not taken to ensure the Codes are being adhered to, especially as major trading partners are increasingly seeking evidence of equivalency with their own regulations on animal welfare. British Columbians are now looking to the Province for leadership on animal welfare.

We have enjoyed working with you to date on recommendations for adoption of the Canadian Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle into a regulation to the *PCA Act*, and we look forward to your decision and implementation of this measure. Nonetheless, we now feel even more strongly that all of the Canadian Codes of Practice should be adopted into regulation to the *PCA Act*, as in five other provinces. This is critical to ensure a clear understanding among all producers that their own industry standards must be adhered to, to promote clarity with regard to these minimum expectations, and to demonstrate to British Columbians that the Province takes animal welfare seriously.

With respect to the mink industry, our concerns about animal care on other B.C. mink farms are now extremely heightened after witnessing the degree of abject neglect on this farm. Accordingly, we wish to request an opportunity to conduct joint inspections with Ministry of Agriculture staff on all other B.C. mink farms in the near future to ensure any substandard practices causing animal suffering are ceased.

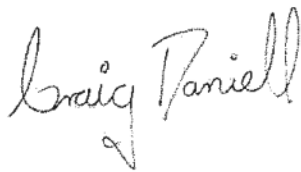
I would also like to take this opportunity to raise the need for greater resources to be dedicated to government inspections of regulated animal agriculture activities in B.C. in order to reassure British Columbians that farming practices here are indeed meeting industry standards. This pertains also to the need for the resourcing of provincial government inspection of livestock auctions, which is empowered under regulations to the *Animal Disease Control Act* (and presumably the proposed *Animal Health Act*). I have enclosed our original 2010 correspondence to this effect here.

In closing, I would like to reiterate our esteem for you and your Ministry staff with whom we have built a strong and professional working relationship. I look forward to an upcoming opportunity to discuss these matters with you or your staff, as we advance British Columbia towards truly having the strongest animal protection system in Canada.

Appendix A (Cont.)

I can be reached by telephone at telephone at (office) 604-647-1322 or (mobile) s.22, or by email at cdaniell@spca.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Daniell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Craig Daniell
Chief Executive Officer
BC SPCA

Encl.

CC: Derek Sturko, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture
James Mack, Assistant Deputy Minister, Agricultural Science and Policy
Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinary Officer
Karen Bill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister of Agriculture

Appendix B

BC SPCA File # 181467

Orders Issued to s.79

by BC SPCA SPC Eileen Drever August 15, 2014

s.79

BC SPCA Order # 07626 –Complaint – Overcrowding, causing stress – hyperthermia in warm weather

Order - Refer to Code of Practice Minimum Floor Space 1.2.2 - compliance within 7 days.

BC SPCA Order # 07627 Complaint – Lack of bedding

Order - Refer to Code Of Practice 1.2.3. nest boxes and provide bedding – compliance within 14 days.

BC SPCA Order #07628 –Complaint – Lack of Enrichment

Order – Refer to Code of Practice 1.2.5 – compliance within 4 weeks.

BC SPCA Order # 07629 – Bio Security (lack thereof)

Order – Refer to the Code of Practice 2.1 –compliance immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07630 –Complaint - Manure Build Up

Order – Refer to Code of Practice 2.3. – compliance immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07631 –Complaint – Nutrition – underweight mink

Order – Refer to Code of Practice 3.1 – Appendix A Body Condition Score – Compliance 14 days.

BC SPCA Order # 07632 –Complaint – Spoiled Feed

Order – Refer to Code of Practice 3.2.4. – Compliance immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07633 –Complaint – Water Management – Contaminated Water Receptacles

Order – Refer to Code of Practice 3.3 Wash and disinfect water receptacles regularly to avoid contamination – Compliance immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07634 –Complaint – Injured Mink /Dead Mink

Order - Refer to Code of Practice 4.1 – train staff to look for signs of Health & Welfare concerns monitor daily - Compliance

Order- Refer to Code of Practice 4.2 – Documentation relating to training competence of stock people must be maintained. – Compliance 30 days.

BC SPCA Order # 07635 –Complaint – Injured/sick Mink

Order -Refer to Code of Practice 4.4 – Injured/sick Mink be relieved of their distress immediately – treat or euthanize – Keep medical records – Compliance Immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07636 –Complaint – lack of Herd Health Management Plan

Order - Refer to Code of Practice 4.3 – Compliance 30 days.

BC SPCA Order # 07637 –Complaint – Euthanasia

Order- Refer to Code of Practice 6.1 & 6.2 – Compliance Immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07638 –Complaint – Aisle ways – Lack of Drainage

Order - Provide drainage in aisle ways – scrape out mud (unenforceable unless mink suffer as a result)

BC SPCA Order # 07639 –Complaint – Mink Displaying stereo-typic behaviours

Order – Provide enrichment immediately to the mink displaying these behaviours – Compliance 7 days.

BC SPCA Order # 07640 Complaint – Damaged Pens

Order – Repair damaged pens immediately to prevent further injuries – Compliance – Immediately.

BC SPCA Order # 07641 –Complaint – Applying Alcohol and Ash to wounds on mink

Order – Cease applying alcohol and ash to wounds – Compliance – Immediately

BC SPCA Order # 07642 –Complaint – Mink overheating

Order – provide a misting system to allow mink to cool down in hot weather - Compliance – 1 year.

**Orders Issued to ^{s.79}
responses sent on September 3rd.**

by BC SPCA SPC Eileen Drever August 15, 2014 and farm

As per Order # 7645, regarding pain control for animals present with wounds or injuries; we have acquired and implemented Metacam (Meloxicam .5mg/ml) into our animal care program.

As per code rule # 1.2.2, in regards to the overcrowding, we have moved the mink into appropriately sized pens.

As per code rule # 1.2.5, in regards to enrichments in the pens. We will be introducing multiple different items into a controlled area where we can monitor which enrichment works the best before we put in a bulk order. We will need at least a few months to complete this trial, as was discussed in our meeting on the 15th of August.



Ministry of
Agriculture

August 12, 2014

File: 74700-01

s.79

COPY

Further to my visit of July 11, 2014, this is a reminder your fur farming operation at ^{s.79}
s.79 must maintain a Fur Farm Licence. Please complete the
application that was left at the property and return to:

Ministry of Agriculture
Livestock Health Management & Regulatory Unit
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, BC
V3G 2M3

Fur Farm Act

9 (1) A person must not

- (a) operate a fur farm without a licence,
- (b) feed, or offer for food to, a fur bearing animal the whole
or part of the carcass of a fur bearing animal, or
- (c) contravene any other provision of this Act.

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

Wildlife Act

Provisional Wildlife Act

33 (1) A person commits an offence if the person has live wildlife in his or
her personal possession except as authorized under a licence or permit
or as provided by regulation.

(2) A person commits an offence if the person has dead wildlife or a part of any wildlife in his or her possession except as authorized under a licence or permit or as provided by regulation.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to a person acting under a licence under the *Fur Farm Act* or the *Game Farm Act*.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Copy: Dr. Jane Pritchard, Director,
Plant and Animal Health Branch, AGRI



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

s.79

Site Location: s.79

License Number 3156

Date: August 15, 2014.

☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens

☐ NO All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform **(by June 2014)**
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

~~Note – cages are present that do not have a hammock/shelf or platform that contained multiple juvenile mink.~~

☐ NO All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment by December 31, 2013

Note – this is being addressed.

Nest Boxes

☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

☐ NO Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

Note – Based on the Current Mink Code of Practice, there were multiple juvenile mink in cages with space suitable for only one juvenile mink (based on area) consistent with crowding.

☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Note – Although adequate air flow is present, lack of drainage, low lying areas and manure build up was contributing to less than optimal conditions in the sheds for animals and humans.

Fur Farm Act –

Cleanliness of premises

6 A licensee must

- (a) maintain in a sanitary condition the place where a fur bearing animal is kept, and
- (b) observe any regulation on cleanliness.

Fur Farm Regulation

Animal pens

4.03 Every licensee shall provide ample and properly constructed pens for the accommodation of his animals, and he shall locate the pens in suitable surroundings that admit of proper drainage, and he shall protect them by a suitable guard fence where the fur bearing animals are kept and liable to escape.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☐ not inspected ☐ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

s.79

I understand that you have higher priorities to deal with at this time. Please note that I am available to support you through dealing with these higher priorities.

At some point, likely spring 2015, I will revisit your farm to follow up on the issues I have highlighted in this inspection check list.

Jane Pritchard

604-556-3013

jane.pritchard@gov.bc.ca



Ministry of
Agriculture

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location: s.79
s.79

License Number - 31553

Date: August 14, 2014.

☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens

☐ **NO** All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June 2014)
if a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

Note – cages are present that do not have a hammock/shelf or platform that contained multiple juvenile mink.

NO All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment by December 31, 2013

Note – This is currently being addressed.

Nest Boxes

☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

☐ **NO** Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

Note – Based on the Current Mink Code of Practice, there were multiple juvenile mink in cages with space suitable for only one juvenile mink (based on area) consistent with crowding.

☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Note – Although adequate air flow is present, lack of drainage, low lying areas and manure build up was contributing to less than optimal conditions for both animals and humans in some sheds.

Fur Farm Act –

Cleanliness of premises

6 A licensee must

(a) maintain in a sanitary condition the place where a fur bearing animal is kept, and

(b) observe any regulation on cleanliness.

Fur Farm Regulation

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

Note – Currently being addressed

~~☐ **Not inspected** Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.~~

☐ **Not inspected** Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship - no
- Mink Identification System – not updated
- Vaccination and treatment records - not consistent
- Tracking mortalities – not consistent

✓ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

s.79

AS you are currently dealing with higher priority concerns, I will not be following up on these points until likely spring 2015 at which time I will revisit your farm to follow up on the items pointed out in this inspection that would need to be addressed.

Please note that I am available to support you in addressing the higher priority items currently occupying your attention.

Jane Pritchard
604-556-3013
jane.pritchard@gov.bc.ca



Ministry of
Agriculture

s.79

July 11, 2014

File: 74700-01
Hand Delivered &
Registered Mail

Property of:

s.79

COPY

Re: Possession of Mink Without a Fur Farm License

The Ministry of Agriculture has been advised that you have farmed mink on your property. The Regulatory Unit has no record of this property being licensed to farm mink. This letter is to inform you of the legislation in place regarding housing and licensing mink in the Province of British Columbia.

Fur Farm Act

9 (1) A person must not

- (a) operate a fur farm without a licence,
- (b) feed, or offer for food to, a fur bearing animal the whole or part of the carcass of a fur bearing animal, or
- (c) contravene any other provision of this Act.

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

Wildlife Act

33 (1) A person commits an offence if the person has live wildlife in his or her personal possession except as authorized under a licence or permit or as provided by regulation.

Ministry of Agriculture

Livestock Health
Management & Regulatory
Unit

Mailing Address:
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Telephone: 604 556-3093
Facsimile: 604 556-3015

Web Address: <http://www.al.gov.bc.ca>

(2) A person commits an offence if the person has dead wildlife or a part of any wildlife in his or her possession except as authorized under a licence or permit or as provided by regulation.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to a person acting under a licence under the *Fur Farm Act* or the *Game Farm Act*.

I have enclosed a copy of the *Fur Farm Act*, as well as an application for licensing. An inspection of your facility will be required prior to licensing. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Copy: Dr. Jane Pritchard, Director,
Plant and Animal Health Branch, AGRI

Dr. Helen Schwantje
Wildlife Veterinarian
Ministry of Environment

Mink Association of BC

Encl.

Page 098 to/à Page 101

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 3:49 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Pollution Abatement Order 107184 - s.79



- **Jane Pritchard | Chief Veterinary Officer and Director Plant and Animal Health Branch | B.C Ministry of Agriculture | Abbotsford | Phone: 604-556-3013**

From: Schmidt, Orlando AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 3:21 PM
To: Hughes-Games, Geoff AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Zimmerman, Kathleen AGRI:EX
Cc: Rushworth, George N ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Pollution Abatement Order 107184 -s.79

Jane, George suggested I pass this to you.

Geoff, note requirement for NMP.

Kathleen, FYI as this is in your regional area (for a few more days ☺)

No action required at this time – although it is possible the Ministry may be contacted regarding the required activities in the Order.

Please respect the confidentiality of this file.

Orlando Schmidt, MSc, PAg,
 Regional Manager, Coast
 BC Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road Abbotsford BC V3G 2Z1
 Tel 604-556-3101 Fax 604-556-3099 Email: orlando.schmidt@gov.bc.ca

From: Rushworth, George N ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 1:57 PM
To: Schmidt, Orlando AGRI:EX
Subject: Pollution Abatement Order 107184 -s.79

Hi Orlando

Please find attached the above mentioned Pollution Abatement Order that is being sent out in this morning mails after consultation with s.79 and their consultant. You may want to pass this on to Jane Pritchard for her information.



s.79

107184.pdf

Please call me at (604) 582-5211 if you have any questions.

George Rushworth P.Ag.
Senior Environmental Protection Officer
Ministry of Environment
2nd Floor - 10470 - 152nd Street
Surrey, BC V3R 0Y3
Office: (604) 582-5211
Cell: (604) 220-2379
george.rushworth@gov.bc.ca



Date: May 21, 2014

File: 107184

s.79

POLLUTION ABATEMENT ORDER

The Director is satisfied on reasonable grounds that pollution is occurring from the
s.79 s.79

Ministry inspections at the above property have shown that agriculture waste (manure), waste milk food and the associated leachate and solids are escaping into the environment causing pollution.

Pursuant to Section 83 of the *Environmental Management Act* s.79 is hereby ordered to comply with the following requirements:

1. **Retain a Qualified Professional(s) (QP)** to address the concerns identified below and prepare the necessary reports and plans. A QP is identified as an applied scientist or technologist specializing in a particular science including but not limited to agrology, biology, chemistry, engineering, geology or hydrogeology, and
 - a. ~~Is registered in British Columbia with their appropriate professional organization, acting under that association's Code of Ethics, and is subject to disciplinary action by that association, and~~
 - b. Through suitable education, experience, accreditation and knowledge, may be reasonably relied upon to provide advice within their area of expertise.

There are a number of different specialty areas required below and more than one individual may be required. The QP must be an arm's length arrangement and a third party. The QP is to provide a statement of qualification identifying their ability to meet the requirements of this Order by **May 30th, 2014;**

Ministry of Environment

Regional Operations
Coast Region

Mailing Location/Address
2nd Floor, 10470 - 152
Street
Surrey, BC V3R 0Y3

Telephone: (604) 582-5200
Facsimile: (604) 584-9751
<http://www.gov.bc.ca>

2. **Immediately stop and prevent the further escape of effluent off-site from**
s.79 that is contaminated with agricultural waste (manure), waste mink food and the associated leachate that impacts the environment;
3. Submit to the Director, by July 31st, 2014, an **Environmental Management Plan (EMP)** that ensures all key environmental concerns are addressed at s.79
s.79 The EMP must contain but is not limited to the following:
 - a. An **Agricultural Waste Management Plan** that provides proper collection, management and storage of agricultural waste (manure) and waste mink food to ensure this material does not contaminate storm water or create leachate that impacts groundwater and surface water;
 - b. A **Storm Water Management Plan** that addresses the storm water management issues on the farm and the farm building where agricultural waste (manure) or waste feed contacts and contaminates storm water that impacts groundwater and surface water;
 - c. A **Repair and Maintenance Program**, including an implementation schedule, for stopping and preventing leaks from the drinking water supply system located in the mink cages;
 - d. The EMP must include sketches identifying the legal boundaries of the property, buildings including manure storage facilities, storm water sources, watercourses, ditches, swales, creeks, etc.;
 - e. The EMP must provide recommendations indicating the necessary improvements in infrastructure, management practices or other pertinent detail to ensure all environmental concerns are addressed and that the contaminated storm water or leachate does not impact groundwater and surface water; and
 - f. The EMP must provide a schedule indicating when new facilities and improved management practices will be implemented to ensure contaminated storm water or leachate does not impact groundwater or surface water;
4. Submit to the Director, by November 30th, 2014, a **Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)** detailing where agricultural waste (manure) generated at s.79
s.79 is applied to land. The NMP must include, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Minimize the loss of nutrients from agricultural waste and other fertilizer applied to land by eliminating runoff, leaching, emissions to the air or other mechanisms to prevent pollution;
 - b. Recommend an appropriate nutrient application rate, timing and method of application;

- c. Provide information on the crop(s) in terms of both yield and quality (i.e. nutrient value);
 - d. Submit to the Director by June 30, 2014, a **preliminary NMP** identifying agriculture waste application location and area, crops, recommended application rates and spring soil nutrient information;
 - e. In addition, the NMP must be updated by November 30, 2015 and submitted to the Director for review;
5. Submit to the Director by March 30th, 2015 an **Environmental Impact Study** (Study) that evaluates the impacts of any contaminated storm water discharge from s.79. The Study must provide data that takes into consideration seasonal conditions and variation of all existing or potential impacts to the environment including any off-site migration of effluent to any watercourse including ditches as well s.79. The Study must provide an analysis with a comparison to all applicable provincial water standards. The study must address the impacts identified during previous incidents in August 2004 and November 2005. Please note that Ministry can provide, upon request, additional information from these historical incidents.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this order is a contravention of the *Environmental Management Act* and may result in legal action.

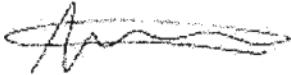
This order does not authorize entry upon, crossing over, or use for any purpose of private or crown lands or works, unless and except as authorized by the owner of such lands or works. The responsibility for obtaining such authority rests with you. It is also your responsibility to ensure that all activities are carried out with due regard for the rights of third parties, and comply with other applicable legislation that may be in force, such as municipal bylaws relating to the discharge of waste to municipal storm or sanitary sewers.

This decision may be appealed to the Environmental Appeal Board in accordance with Part 8 of the *Environmental Management Act*. An appeal must be delivered within 30 days from the date notice is given. For further information, please contact the Environmental Appeal Board at (250) 387-3464.

.../4

If you have any questions, please contact George Rushworth or Ashley Smith at (604) 582-5200.

Yours truly,



Avtar S. Sundher, B.Sc.
for Director, *Environmental Management Act*

cc: s.79

Environment Canada
James Kelly, Conservation Officer Service, Maple Ridge
Jason Bourgeois, Compliance Section Head, MOE, Kamloops
Ashley Smith, Compliance Officer, MOE, Surrey

bcc. Orlando Schmidt, Ministry of Agri.



April 14, 2014

s.79

COPY

Thank you for meeting with us today.

Considerable effort has been noted since our last visit. The nest boxes have ample bedding material, fencing has been improved, and rodents do not appear to be an issue.

Continue to work on general cleanliness of the premise and drainage in between the sheds. I have enclosed a copy of the National Farm animal Care Council for Farmed Mink. I encourage you to find alternate methods to housing the male mink (an alternative to standing on all wire cages, possibly an option of some solid flooring with bedding).

Please remember to consider submitting losses to the Animal Health Centre to allow you to determine the actual cause of death. Dr. Ann Britton is increasingly working closely with the mink industry to help improve our service to them. I know that you will find this service beneficial.

A follow-up visit in the fall will be scheduled.

Thank you again.

Lynette Hare
Operations Coordinator

Encl. 2014 Licence Application
Code of Practice

Page 109 to/à Page 118

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

OK ✓ no charged ☺
Thanks

JP
Sent to

s.79

Mon 10/14

Mink Farm Inspection List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

January 21, 2014

MAgri Staff

Jane Pritchard, Lynette Hare, Darryl Smith

The farm is composed of two enclosed storage buildings and five shed rows, near completion. .
Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Development of an Environmental Farm Plan was advised.

Perimeter Fencing

Perimeter fencing meets or exceeds all recommendations.

Housing

Sheds are open on both sides with drop curtains available for outside of sheds in extreme weather.
Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens

All pens with multiple mink will be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform.

Nest Boxes

Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

Property:

The property appears clean and orderly. Drainage was not observed (ground covered in snow), but appears to slope away from barns.

Photos attached.

Page 121 to/à Page 137

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.79

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2014 1:41 PM
To: Smith, Darrell R AGRI:EX; Sawyer, Bronwyn AGRI:EX
Cc: Tegart, Greg AGRI:EX; Roesler, Corrine AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: mink farm

Happy New Year Darrell.

I understand that you will be visiting the site with Jane Pritchard and Lynette Hare next week.

I have asked Corrine to prepare a map which should help understand the layout of this operation relative to the concerns expressed in the string of emails that will be ready by the end of the week. Let us know if you anything else beyond what I mentioned below.

I've identified the following themes in the emails:

Local Government Bylaws:

- we will be able to establish new Regulations for setbacks from property lines, total number of animals, etc. and possible a local type of Environmental Assessment check list [Mike Sosnowski]
- RDEK not having bylaws in place for nuisances like smell and sound and animal attractant [Minister Bennett]
- No bylaws, for smell, noise or feed and waste disposal, nothing! s.22
- The issues around smells and other nuisances are more likely to be local government issues. [Minister Bennett]

Suggested Response:

- Farmers following normal farm practice are protected under the Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act from individuals (not liable in nuisance regarding odour, noise, dust or other disturbances) and from local government "nuisance bylaws" where farm is in the ALR. The types of nuisance bylaws would be noise bylaws, nuisance and disturbance bylaws, animal control bylaws passed listed in section 2(3) of the FPPA.
- In other words local governments may have difficulty in enforcing bylaws to deal with nuisances where farmers are following "normal farm practice" in the ALR.
- The Minister has established Bylaw Standards to guide local government bylaw development in farming areas (ALR) under section 916 of the Local Government Act. The "Guide for Bylaw Development in Farming Areas" is that standard. It includes lot line setbacks but does not include limits on animal numbers or environmental check lists.
- Section 915 of the Local Government Act states that fur farms are an outright permitted use in the ALR despite a zoning bylaw to the contrary. Fur farms could be prohibited by a Minister approved Farm Bylaw in a local government where a Right to Farm Regulation under the Local Government Act has been applied. The Minister has not indicated whether such a bylaw would be approved.
- People aggrieved by disturbances from farm practices may file a formal complaint with BCFIRB. BCFIRB will hear the complaint in their community and determine if the farm practice is considered normal and protected. If not, they may order that the practice be changed or cease.
- There is an active BCFIRB complaint regarding a mink farm in Langley. It is the only one that I am aware of since the FPPA was enacted in 1996. There are usually several complaints per year (1-3) regarding farm practices and most have been resolved without a formal complaint to BCFIRB.

ISSUES:

Water Contamination

- Farmer is encouraged to carry out an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) to assess the environmental risks. Currently the EFP are not mandatory, however that could change under the new Agricultural Waste Control Regulation. Requiring an EFP could be part of a Farm Bylaw in a Right to Farm Regulated local government where the Farm Bylaw is approved by the Minister. One question is who would review the EFP to determine if it was adequate and that the necessary adjustments are made? Often local governments do not have staff with this skill set. Water pollution is regulated under the Environmental Management Act.
- During the site inspection, could ask farmer if there are diversion ditches in place to ensure that snowmelt and clean water is diverted around the farm site. Also is there a collection and storage system for the farm site itself capable of collecting at least a 25 year storm event?

Mink animals, feed, and carcass and manure disposal – bear attractant

- Mink farms are different from many other commodities as they have a different diet, there may be feed in the manure and there is the issue of carcass disposal.
- Carcass disposal is a question for the farmer. It could be rendered in a BSE approved facility such as West Coast Reduction in Calgary. Many lower Mainland farmers have turned to composting the carcasses and then land applying the compost with manure. Land application may be an attractant for birds. I would not expect mink carcasses to be directly spread on the land. Should question the mink farmer about predators. I do not think mink farms will be much different as a bear attractant than backyard poultry or beef ranches. Are these types of operations a concern in RDEK?
- The large number of mink are likely similar in body weight and manure production to beef operations already in the area. It may be helpful to carry out some calculations based on the mink farmer's plans to provide some perspective on the size of the operation, i.e. what is the beef animal equivalent?

Animal Welfare

- One writer has characterized fur farming as cruel and unnecessary. I believe the anti-fur lobby has been successful in Europe and North America, however, the new market is China where the anti-fur lobby has not been successful. The same writer seems to support the sport hunting of grizzly bears though? Is that not cruel and unnecessary similar to mink farming?

Disease Transfer

- Jane Pritchard can answer in greater detail. I understand that this situation will be monitored under an existing project by the Animal Health Branch. Mink escapes do not have the same potential problems regarding disease transfer as in sheep between domestic and wild populations. The BSE concerns are also addressed through existing regulations.

Depreciation of Principle Residence or Quality of Life

- Respect these concerns.
- Also understand that farming is recognized as the priority use in the Agricultural Land Reserve and the residents in the ALR should expect some levels of disturbances such as odour, noise and dust from commercial farming. There is a system in place to address complaints concerning these disturbances.

Darrell are you willing to raise some of these issues with the farmer? It would be good to work with him to address some of the issues being raised. Sometimes it is very useful with a new development that locals may have some apprehension about, to hold an open house or "town hall" meeting to address the issues up front before a lot of rumours start. It may be too late to get out ahead of the concerns in this case, but it may still work to address them to demonstrate which are real issues and how they will be addressed.

Some things I would suggest:

- Developing formal responses by farmer to the concerns raised (similar to those I've listed; we could help review them, perhaps even provide input to the first draft)
- Carry out an Environmental Farm Plan and Nutrient Management Plan
- Ensure that the farmsite drainage and wastewater storage is in place to address water quality concerns. This should be part of the EFP. In my view this includes diversion ditches to prevent upland drainage from flowing through the farmsite and a collection and storage system for the contaminated runoff from the farmstead itself. The storage should be large enough to handle a worst cast storm event (at least a 25 year precipitation event). The EFP Planning Advisor should be able to help or point him in the right direction.

Would you like a conference call with Bronwyn and myself to discuss?

Regards,

Bert

From: van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2014 5:18 PM
To: Roesler, Corrine AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: mink farm

Hi Corrine,

s.79

Thanks,

Bert

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2014 4:54 PM
To: van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: mink farm

s.79

Confirmation that it was zoned appropriately was given by Tracy Van De Wiel the planning technician in Fernie on April 5, 2012, the license was issued subsequent to that letter being received.

- **Jane Pritchard | Chief Veterinary Officer and Director Plant and Animal Health Branch | B.C Ministry of Agriculture | Abbotsford | Phone: 604-556-3013**

From: van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2014 4:23 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Cc: Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: mink farm

Jane,

Do you have the legal description or street address for the proposed farm? I would like to ask our GIS staff to map this property and it's neighbours to gain some perspective on the concerns.

Thanks,

Bert

From: Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2014 4:11 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: mink farm
Importance: High

Jane and Bert

Both Grant and I missed this email this AM that gives more background on the reason for the call. We've now added discussion on this to our next call on Thursday re: regulated communities.

Would you please review this email in preparation for the call? Jane – anything you can add in response would be welcomed.

Ken

From: Crozier, Bev AGRI:EX On Behalf Of Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2014 9:42 AM
To: Parnell, Grant AGRI:EX; Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX
Cc: McLaren, Solveig AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: mink farm
Importance: High

Grant / Ken

This is the email trail that Derek would like to discuss on the call today at 3:45.

Thanks,
Bev

From: s.22
Sent: Friday, January 3, 2014 9:54 AM
To: s.22 XT:Bennett, B LP:IN; s.22
Cc: Smith, Heather L LASS:EX; Knudsen, Vicki LASS:EX; Shoemaker, Wes ENV:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: mink farm

Hello Mike,

Having owned property in the RDCK (Kootenay Lake), as the populace changed new bylaws were established to regulate noise, fire burning, unsightly vehicles, no Tyvex past 12 months of construction etc. etc. When these bylaws were established they applied to all of us retroactively.

As Bill has stated some of these issues are a local government matter, therefore as I had requested months ago, we need to have bylaws established right now, to deal with waste management, carcass disposal (we are talking about 10 000's of carcasses annually) feed attractant, smell and pestilence management.

Having just read the Letter to the editor by Wildsight regarding Grizzly Bear food attractant, I feel the need to ask again: Why should we all be endangered because of an ill-thought out, out-of-date permitting process?

We are right in the middle of numerous drainages that are Grizzly Bear habitat, for our safety, this operation needs to have stringent controls placed on it right now.

None of us have an issue with farming or ranching. None of those operations have 10 000's of animals crammed in a very small open area, urinating and defecating in vast amounts just uphill from a fresh water stream. Not to mention that these animals eat meat (not grain) which creates numerous other concerns with bacteria and pests.

Please help protect the interests and safety of the many in this neighborhood.

Regards,

s.22

From: s.22

Sent: Friday, January 3, 2014 10:24 AM

To: 'Bennett, Bill'; 's.22

Cc: 'Smith, Heather L'; 'Knudsen, Vicki'; 'Shoemaker, Wes ENV:EX'; 'Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX'

Subject: RE: mink farm

Hi s.22 , the only thing I can add is I was successful on getting a Fur Farming Regulation Review on the RDEK priority list for 2014. This won't help this situation but hopefully we will be able to establish new Regulations for setbacks from property lines, total number of animals, etc. and possible a local type of Environmental Assessment check list that must be completed before farming commences before another farm is established.

s.22

From: Bennett, Bill [<mailto:B.Bennett@leg.bc.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 4:54 PM

To: s.22

Cc: s.22; Smith, Heather L; Knudsen, Vicki; Shoemaker, Wes ENV:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: mink farm

s.22

I do not have the information you have requested, re names of legislation, regulations, fines, etc. I just know that you cannot contaminate ground water in this province without serious consequences. I am more familiar with the mining industry and in that case, a company cannot discharge water to the environment without a permit and the application for such a permit is exhaustive. After people are returned from Christmas vacation, I figure I will be able to secure from the appropriate ministries, the legislation and regulations that would apply to the water issue.

You may well be correct about the RDEK not having bylaws in place for nuisances like smell and sound and animal attractant, but now that Mike Sosnowski is aware of this situation (he is the person who brought it to my attention and has been diligent on the file), I am sure he will raise it with his RDEK colleagues. Frankly, there are many situations where the provinces' rules stop and local government rules take over, but local government does not have its rules in place. I am guessing, but they were probably not thinking fur farm as they established their priorities these last few years. I have a feeling that will change in 2014.

It is not irresponsible for the province to follow its own rules and rely on local government to put in place the rules they are responsible for. If it turns out the Province has failed to do something they ought to have done, I will be the first to acknowledge it and get it fixed.

You make a good point about the Elk River and current interest in reducing seepage from the mines. If a mink farm produces the kind of noxious elements you believe it does, that may be one way to approach permitting issues. I share your commitment to ensure that we do not add to already challenging circumstances.

As for other jurisdictions, BC apparently has some direct experience with the industry but ministry staff have not had the time yet to brief me. The ministries usually know what is happening in other provinces, so I expect they have knowledge. They just haven't had the opportunity yet to share it with me and me with you.

I have passed along all your emails and ^{s.22} emails to the appropriate authorities over the past couple of months. I will stay on top of the file, as promised.

B

From: ^{s.22}

Sent: January 2, 2014 3:32 PM

To: Bennett, Bill; ^{s.22}

Cc: ^{s.22}

Smith, Heather L; Knudsen, Vicki; Shoemaker, Wes ENV:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX

Subject: RE: mink farm

Hello Bill,

Thank-you for your reply.

The questions that we would still like answers to however are and to quote your previous (attached) email "The one thing I can say at this point, is that the fines and regulations are far more stringent than you are aware of" so what regulations and fines are in place?

You mention now that some of these issues are likely local government issues. As we have been in contact with Mike Sosnowski (Director of Area A RDEK) we have been made to understand that there is nothing in place for these issues. No bylaws, for smell, noise or feed and waste disposal, nothing!

It seems highly irresponsible for the Province of BC to issue a permit for this type of operation to proceed, without putting the proper protections in place, beforehand.

I would think with the wealth of information that is available, that other jurisdictions have experienced with the contamination of water these types of fur farms cause, and with the current microscope that the Elk River is under, (due to the Selenium issue) that more contamination would want to be avoided at all costs, especially as further contamination of the Elk River will have a negative impact on the future of mining in our area, which each of us depend on for our livelihood. I will remind you that s.79 runs directly through the subject property and has both domestic and agricultural water licenses drawing from it, it then continues and empties into the Elk River. The sheer concentrations of animals in a small area, causes the blue-green algae contamination along with other pollution. It is not too hard to imagine where the waste from all the animals will end up, seeing as the open barns are uphill from the creek and we have precipitation from rain, snow and the spring melt off.

I have also spoken to many people regarding this mink farm and I have to tell you the optics of this type of operation does not sit well with the constituents of this area.

After all, we are talking about killing thousands of animals, not for food, but simply their hides and then distributing to carcasses on the land (causing a huge attractant for ALL predators and pestilence). There is nothing that recommends it, it is not for

local food production, it is not organic farming nor quite simply is it "farming" that anyone accepts as farming, the general consensus is that it is cruel and unnecessary.

Also, everyone that lives in our area has been hyper vigilant with ensuring that there are not attractants left out for the predators, especially Grizzly Bears.

We have managed to co-exist for years with the wildlife without causing a negative impact on them.

How are we to deal, with what will become a very dangerous situation, when there is a permanent attractant around due to the feed, smells and animals of this mink farm right in the middle of Grizzly bear habitat?

Having to destroy Grizzly Bears due to a poorly thought out and outdated permitting process will not sit well with the conservation groups, nor the local hunters that will have their limited entry permits curtailed.

We are asking again that this permit be put on hold, and not be allowed to proceed, until the province has done a proper examination of the effects and has an effective water, environmental and wildlife protection and a waste management regime in place with appropriate. fines.

Regards,

s.22

From: Bennett, Bill [mailto:B.Bennett@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: Thursday, January 2, 2014 2:02 PM

To: s.22

Cc: s.22

Derek AGRI:EX

Subject: mink farm

Bennett, Bill; Smith, Heather L; Knudsen, Vicki; Shoemaker, Wes ENV:EX; Sturko,

s.22

I wanted to let you know that I have been receiving your emails and that I have been working with the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture on this file since it first appeared on my radar. I think it is important that you have raised the issues you have, re ground water, the potential serious nuisance issues and also the potential public safety issues. It is bit like pulling teeth with the ministries but I understand you want to get ahead of curve and not wait for problems to

appear. With that view in mind, I will continue to push government to impose appropriate oversight as this business develops. I am not aware at this time, that there is any way to stop the business, given they have local government zoning and that they have not breached any provincial rules. However, if you become aware of any actions or inactions that constitute legal infractions, I know you will let me know. In general, the business will have to abide by provincial and federal rules with regard to not contaminating ground water or fish-bearing waters. The issues around smells and other nuisances are more likely to be local government issues. The issue of public safety and attraction of predators is something local CO's will have oversight of.

At this point in time, the best I can do is stay on top of the file and ask you to do the same. I welcome any new information from you and commit to staying involved as this business develops.

Bill Bennett
MLA, Kootenay East

Good Morning Bill and Mike,

Has there been any developments, reviews and implementation of NEW regulations/bylaws in regards to the development of this mink farm, yet?

As both our regional and provincial representatives, we ask that you provide us with a complete list of the regulations and bylaws that pertain to the: waste management, water discharge OR seepage, air quality, pestilence and wildlife interference

and any other impacts this venture may have environmentally. This information should also contain the fines for each offense, the contact individual responsible in each department and the schedules of the inspectors that will physically visit this site.

I am curious as a side-note, does the developer pay for the inspections, water testing etc. or is this expense borne by the taxpayer?

Thank-you for your assistance and I look forward to reviewing the information.

Regards,

s.22

From: Bennett, Bill [<mailto:B.Bennett@leg.bc.ca>]

Sent: October-26-13 3:58 PM

To: s.22

CC: Smith, Heather L; Knudsen, Vicki

Subject: FW: Elk Valley Mink Farm

s.22

I am now aware, because of the good work of Mike Sosnowski. I am doing everything I can to draw attention to this potential development for the provincial government and am familiar with all the issues you raise.

The one thing I can say at this point, is that the fines and regulations are far more stringent than you are aware of. Discharging into ground water is a serious matter and will be governed carefully. I have asked that the local stream(s) have base line samples taken so we know the quality of the water now. There may well be other tests and other oversight that can be provided in this case. That is what I am trying to ascertain at this time.

Thank you for your email. I am committed to doing everything I can to manage this situation in a way that is respectful to the people of the Elk Valley, and especially to the neighbours.

Sincerely,

Bill Bennett
MLA, Kootenay East

Hello Mr. Bennett,

As you are aware, a Fur Farm Permit has been granted by the province in 2012 for an operation in the Elk Valley. Our property is adjacent to this operation.

I know you are a busy man (I have attached my in-depth email exchanges with Mike Sosnowski), so I will try to keep my concerns brief and succinct:

1. We live in a major Grizzly Bear migration route (permanent attractant creates problem bears, bears destroyed = no limited entry for the many hunters/outfitters)
2. S.79 traverses subject property, pollutants carry into Elk River (world class fly fishing impacted = lost tourism dollars)
3. S.79 is directly across subject property (vital Elk winter habitat and spring calving area = increased predation, decreases ungulate population = decreased hunter opportunity)
4. Pestilence, disease and smell. What will happen if mink escape and transfer a disease into the wildlife population. Could we see an uncontrolled epidemic such as the chronic wasting? Or what happened with the Bighorn sheep a few years ago?
5. Nova Scotia has stringent bylaws and regulations and fines in place, I am certain you are aware of what BC's are (\$50 fine?)
6. Does the taxpayer now have to pay for an inspector to come all the way from the coast?

The East Kootenay landscape, wildlife and predation is entirely different from that of the Fraser Valley (where subject owner has experience), which will perhaps, bring about more unanticipated dire consequences of this venture. If any of these events were to occur, the optics of having allowed a Mink Farm in the Elk Valley would not sit well with the general populace. I believe we are taking an enormous risk environmentally and in the potential loss of tourism and hunter revenue.

Of course, on a personal note, all of us in the neighbourhood have invested our life savings and hard work into our dream properties. Not one of us wants to face the depreciation of our principal residence and the loss of our quality of life.

~~Is all of this truly worth the \$24 the province takes in for the permit?~~

Regards,

s.22

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 3:15 PM
To: Smith, Darrell R AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Cc: Tegart, Greg AGRI:EX; Roesler, Corrine AGRI:EX; Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Sawyer, Bronwyn AGRI:EX; Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX
Subject: Mink farm

Hi Darrell and Lynette,

Thanks for the maps Corrine. Corrine mentioned that the air photos are 9 years old and things may have changed. The files are fairly large and stored on Q Drive

Q:\Strengthening Farming Program\Mink Farm s.22

The property is an 80 acre parcel (minus road right-of-way) and is surrounded by 80 and 160 acre parcels all within the ALR. The 10 acres across the northern part of the parcel have been cleared on the old airphoto, however, the 2011 ALUI classified the entire parcel as "no apparent use". The 10 acres which were cleared may be where the mink sheds are now located and would appear to be a natural area to spread the manure. A nutrient management plan could reveal that more land area is required for manure application. s.79

s.79

line s.22

s.22 . The entire area slopes towards the river with a 2.5-5% slope. The streams do not appear to run all the way to the Elk River and likely are dry during parts of the year.

s.22,s.79

During the site visit, please sketch where the mink sheds are located. Also the location of the residence if one is located on the property. This information may be useful to map for future reference.

Regards,

Bert

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 1:44 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Fwd: mink farm letter

Jane Pritchard
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
British Columbia

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX" <Ken.Nickel@gov.bc.ca>
Date: January 22, 2014 at 1:40:51 PM PST
To: "Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX" <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>, "van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX" <Bert.vanDalfsen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "MacDonald, Leslie S AGRI:EX" <Leslie.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>, "Tegart, Greg AGRI:EX" <Greg.Tegart@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: re: mink farm letter

Jane / Bert

Thanks again for your assistance. This is the email I sent back to Mike Sosnowski. A Minister's letter is also being sent which will be cc'd to the relevant ministers. The site inspection will be mentioned in that letter.

Ken

From: Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:19 PM
To: s.22 ; 'Director Area A'
Cc: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Parnell, Grant AGRI:EX; Smith, Darrell P. AGRI:EX
Subject:

File: 0280-30
Ref: 178721

Mike Sosnowski
E-Mail: s.22

Dear Mr. Sosnowski :

Thank you for your email, addressed to the Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines, regarding the placement of a mink farm in the Elk Valley. Thank you as well for the additional information you provided on specific concerns raised by a neighbor to the farm. Your correspondence has been forwarded to the Honourable Pat Pimm, Minister of Agriculture for consideration and response. Due to the technical nature of your concerns, I have been asked to provide a response on

behalf of the Ministry while also incorporating the additional information that arose during our recent phone conversation.

Firstly, I understand your interest in having public consultation for a type of farming that is new to your area. Fur farming is a form of intensive farming specifically permitted under the *Local Government Act* within the Agricultural Land Reserve in BC. Public consultation is not a prerequisite for initiating any type of permitted use, including the more common intensive livestock and poultry operations, but it is an option for farmers to consider.

Regarding local government bylaws and farming, the *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act* protects farmers following "normal farm practice" from local government bylaws regarding nuisance such as odour, noise and dust. The Act also establishes the BC Farm Industry Review Board to hear formal complaints from aggrieved persons regarding disturbances from farm practices. If the farmer is not following "normal farm practice" BCFIRB may, in response to a valid complaint, order the practice to cease or to be amended to become "normal".

In order to assist and guide local government bylaw development, the Minister of Agriculture establishes standards that are contained in the publication titled "Guide for Bylaw Development in Farming Areas". As an example, there are standards for farm building setbacks to property lines and streams as well as for maximum lot coverage. The Ministry encourages local governments to develop bylaws consistent with these standards. Should local governments wish to be more restrictive they may request that the Right to Farm Regulation under the *Local Government Act* be applied to them in order to access Farm Bylaw powers (subject to the Minister of Agriculture's approval) to apply greater regulation to farms.

Mink farms are considered fur farms and are governed by the regulations outlined in the *Fur Farm Act*. The Fur Farm Regulations were developed with the purpose of allowing their existence giving fur farms the exemption to keep wildlife and to 'farm' wildlife. This is required due to the position of the *Wildlife Act* that specifically makes farming wildlife illegal without this exemption. That is the basis for the licensing of mink farms. Permit information is more detailed and includes information as described on our website. Specific information from an individual licensee is not made public.

You have been asked whether the animals will be vaccinated prior to their arrival due to public concerns about the spread of disease. We do not collect or request vaccination information from fur farms. The vaccination program for a mink farm would generally be developed and applied based on the health program in place for that farm and with veterinary consultation.

Disease spread from fur farms to wildlife is a concern and we have taken steps to address it. In partnership with the Ministries of Environment and Forests, Lands and Natural Resources, a survey of sero-prevalence of Aleutian Mink Disease Virus (AMDV) antibodies in the area has been put in place. This survey will be done in both mink and skunks, and any number of other furbearers that could express antibodies, as availability presents itself. Carcasses will be collected from trappers and cardiac blood samples will be collected and tested for Aleutian Disease Virus (the blood can be tested for AMDV antibodies at the Ministry of Agriculture's Animal Health Centre in Abbotsford). All mustelids, including badgers, would be susceptible to AMDV. This is a serious disease for mink, and one that mink producers work hard to keep out of their animals, and we will be monitoring the wild population to address our concerns. Since we might expect a low-level of AMDV infection in wild mink, additional follow-up isolation of the virus itself and testing will be done with any positives to determine if the origin is from the farm or if it is a strain that is naturally circulating in the wildlife. Skunks will be tested as well because skunks appear to readily pick up this virus as well as other viral agents we are currently studying in the Fraser Valley.

Regarding ongoing monitoring and inspections, the Ministry requires animal inventory numbers on an annual basis from fur farm and game farm licensees as a condition of their license renewal. There are no regulations for any farm that forces them to give us information on vehicle movement or the application of biosecurity measures unless they are in a specific disease control area as established by the Minister. The Ministry of Agriculture generally does on-farm inspections primarily in response to complaints as inspections are not required under the legislation. The inspections by the Ministry of Agriculture are not done on a cost recovery basis or with any fee attached. All fees are currently attached to licensing.

Finally, regarding the movement of feed for mink farms, there aren't restrictions on bringing feed into BC from Alberta unless it is to be resold, which would then trigger federal inspection. This is similar to the movement of food products such as eggs or meat for human consumption. Importation from the USA is quite different as the disease profile in their livestock is quite different and border restrictions are applied to prevent the introduction of diseases into BC.

Earlier you raised water quality concerns which would fall under the responsibility of the Ministry of Environment via the *Agriculture Waste Control Regulation*. Ministry of Agriculture staff are prepared to work with the proponent and Ministry of Environment staff to address any environmental and water quality concerns. The Ministry of Agriculture's Farm Practice Reference Guide provides information on manure management and carcass disposal which may prove helpful. Links to these documents are provided at:

http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/fppa/refguide/activity/870218-44_Manure_Storage.pdf

http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/fppa/refguide/activity/870218-46_Mortality_Disposal.pdf

I recognize that this information may trigger additional questions or actions. I would encourage you to use Darrell Smith, the Ministry's Regional Agrologist for your area, as your first point of contact for additional and timely assistance. Darryl is located in Invermere and can be reached at 250 342-4219.

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Ken Nickel

Ken Nickel, Director
Sector Development Branch
BC Ministry of Agriculture

1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford BC V3G 2M3

Telephone: 604 556-3103
ken.nickel@gov.bc.ca

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 1:44 PM
To: Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Fwd: mink farm letter

Jane Pritchard
Chief Veterinary Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
British Columbia

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX" <Ken.Nickel@gov.bc.ca>
Date: January 22, 2014 at 1:40:51 PM PST
To: "Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX" <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>, "van Dalfsen, Bert AGRI:EX" <Bert.vanDalfsen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "MacDonald, Leslie S AGRI:EX" <Leslie.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>, "Tegart, Greg AGRI:EX" <Greg.Tegart@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: re: mink farm letter

Jane / Bert

Thanks again for your assistance. This is the email I sent back to Mike Sosnowski. A Minister's letter is also being sent which will be cc'd to the relevant ministers. The site inspection will be mentioned in that letter.

Ken

From: Nickel, Ken AGRI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:19 PM
To: s.22 : 'Director Area A'
Cc: Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX; Parnell, Grant AGRI:EX; Smith, Darrell R AGRI:EX
Subject:

File: 0280-30
Ref: 178721

Mike Sosnowski
E-Mail: s.22

Dear Mr. Sosnowski :

Thank you for your email, addressed to the Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines, regarding the placement of a mink farm in the Elk Valley. Thank you as well for the additional information you provided on specific concerns raised by a neighbor to the farm. Your correspondence has been forwarded to the Honourable Pat Pimm, Minister of Agriculture for consideration and response. Due to the technical nature of your concerns, I have been asked to provide a response on

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Ken Nickel

Ken Nickel, Director
Sector Development Branch
BC Ministry of Agriculture
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford BC V3G 2M3

Telephone: 804 556-3103
ken.nickel@gov.bc.ca

Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

From: s.22
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2013 6:37 PM
To: XT:Bennett, B LP:IN
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Mike Sosnowski; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: Re: Elk Valley Mink Ranch

Dear Mr. Bennett

I am inquiring again about the mink farm permit that was issued for the Elk Valley in 2012. Is it public information on the number of mink that will be arriving in January of 2014? Residents of the Elk Valley want to know how many mink will be arriving, which should be known from the "Application for a Licence to Operate a Fur Farm" (more information is required and time spent completing a school field trip form). We have been told there is approximately 800 to 1200 female mink, 150 males, so if the average kits per litter are 9.5 that would be approximately 7,600 to 11,400 mink. Can you please tell me when inspections will be done, how frequently and what the cost of these inspections are and who is responsible for this cost? Are these animals going to be vaccinated before arriving in the Elk Valley to protect the abundance of wildlife on the other side of the fenced in mink? If this was the number of mink reported on the permit, with the known devastating effects of this type of farm that is being introduced to the "Wilderness Capital of BC" we must not be getting all the information on the studies that would have been done before the permit was issued. I do realize that this area was zoned for fur farming approximately 40 years ago, when the local farmers attempted to raise 20 to 30 mink NOT thousands. As mentioned, that was 40 years ago.

Mr. Bennet, we have been told that nothing can be done before hand to protect our quality of life, residences safety, environment, protection of wildlife, etc, until we have complaints - so please provide the contacts of who we are to complain to. Also, we have yet to be informed of the bylaws (yes I have been told it is a local issue regarding bylaws) but I have also been told it is a provincial issue, what are the bylaws? As you mentioned in a previous email, there are "stringent fines and regulations" in place, but to date we have not been told what these are. So, what is your plan when the soil or water is contaminated or if there is a devastating disease to the wildlife (especially the red listed badgers) our pets and when the predators, mainly the grizzly bears become such a safety problem they will have to be destroyed?

I look forward to hearing from you and answers to the above questions.

s.22

- **Jane Pritchard | Chief Veterinary Officer and Director Plant and Animal Health Branch | B.C**
Ministry of Agriculture | Abbotsford | Phone: 604-556-3013

From: s.22

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2013 8:18 AM

To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

Subject: Fwd: Re: Elk Valley Mink Ranch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Elk Valley Mink Ranch

Date: Fri, 11 Oct 2013 09:16:29 -0600

From: s.22

To: Mike Sosnowski <mike@directorareaa.ca>

Morning Mike,

Thanks for your email. I'm sorry but we just can't get our head around this!! The Ministry will let this continue
s.79 is contaminated before a moratorium is ordered. Obviously, these decision makers, permit issuers, have no idea the impact this mink farm will have on the Elk Valley. There are 5 water licenses
s.79 . What about the BC Wildlife Act where "a person must not leave or place an attractant in, on or about any land premises where there are or where there are likely to be people, in a manner in which the attractant could, attract dangerous wildlife to the land or premises" does this not apply to the Mink Farm? This zoning has to change. It might work for other areas in BC but where we have the abundance of predators already, without attractants, it is just spelling big trouble. How many grizzly bears have to be destroyed because they are baited to this area? The most important issue is who is going to protect the residents surrounding this farm? What about the children waiting for the school buses in the early morning? When there is a mauling or cougar attack is that when the Ministry will wake up. This will all end up very publically on the Ministries door-step. How does the business needs of one out weight the safety and concerns of the many local residents. Right now it is easier to let this go than to admit that when issuing the \$25.00 permit they did gave no thought to the detrimental effects on the area, wildlife, but most important the safety of the Elk Valley Residents. The mink farmer has no worries, he will be safe in his fenced in farm and his family is safe in their yard in another town.

On 10/11/2013 6:49 AM, Mike Sosnowski wrote:

Hi s.22 this is what I anticipated the reply would be. Not good. I think we need to take water samples of s.79 downstream of the Mink Farm to get a baseline. I will get information on how and what to do and where to send it. I'm hoping the government can help with this. I have been emailing with Bill and he isn't having much luck getting this stopped yet. He's still trying. Sorry I don't have better news for you this morning.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22

Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 4:54 PM

To: Mike Sosnowski

Subject: Fwd: Elk Valley Mink Ranch

Hey mike,

Just thought I would pass this on. Also think the mink will be here very soon. He is putting up the fence.

Thanks

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX" <Jane.Pritchard@gov.bc.ca>

Date: October 9, 2013 at 6:08:33 PM PDT

To: 's.22

Subject: RE: Elk Valley Mink Ranch

s.22

Thank you very much for your email. I am aware of the issue of the mink farm license in the East Kootenay area and I believe a response to the interest in this license will come from the Ministry soon.

The license for this farm was issued in accordance with our current Act and Regulations. Review of this Act and Regulation may be an appropriate outcome of your interest.

Thank you for sharing your concern,

Jane Pritchard

**Jane Pritchard | Chief Veterinary Officer and Director Plant and
Animal Health Branch | B.C Ministry of Agriculture | Abbotsford | Phone: 604-
556-3013**

From: s.22
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2013 10:26 AM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fwd: Elk Valley Mink Ranch

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Elk Valley Mink Ranch
Date: Tue, 08 Oct 2013 18:58:00 -0600
From: s.22
To: Lynette Hare <Lynette.Hare@gov.bc.ca>
CC: Mike Sosnowski s.22

Dear Ms. Hare,

We are writing in response to an email forwarded to us by Mike Sosnowski.

A permit was issued for a mink farm in the Elk Valley in 2012, obviously without much research or thought. This is the "Elk Valley" not the Fraser Valley. Eight valleys run right through where this proposed mink ranch is located, all of which are Grizzly Bear habitat.

We have just recently found out about this ranch, which has been kept very quiet. So then, when you are forced to research mink farms, the information is alarming, documented and negative. Although there are numerous documented issues with these farms, in BC there are not any bylaws or regulations in place to protect others (how can this be possible with all the controversy surrounding mink farming?) Who is going to monitor the care, cleanliness, disease control, flies, stench,

etc, especially seeing there are no local inspectors? It is just mind boggling that this permit was issued. We understand that this farmer plans to feed these carnivores by-products that are trucked in from the slaughter houses in Alberta. How will this feed (and the attractant that the smell will cause) be contained? What happens to the carcasses of the skinned mink? Are they left on the farm to rot? Wow, what an attractant for the grizzly bears, black bears, cougars, wolves, etc., that will be migrating to the "Fence", and now hanging out in the neighboring properties, OURS!! Who is going to look after the safety of our families, children and pets? This farmer has no intention of moving his family on this ranch, why not? Many of our neighbors have small children who love to play outside, walk on walking trails, etc. How many grizzly bears are going to be destroyed because we will be forced to protect our families. We are all so careful not to leave any bear attractants out because we don't want bear encounters.

You are also probably not aware that this mink farm is directly across

s.79

elk (especially their new calves) are going to be bait for the predators, now, residing in our neighborhoods, on this side of the fence. You are also probably not aware that s.79 runs through this mink farm, which flows through neighboring properties, and eventually flows into the Elk River (famous with fly-fisherman throughout North America). Are you familiar with the Algae Bloom controversy that surrounds mink farming? There are so many issues and concerns that have not even been considered before granting this permit! Again, the Elk Valley is entirely different than the Fraser Valley. As like in Nova Scotia, a moratorium should be called and an environmental, water and wildlife study be completed, by-laws in place before even considering this type of farm to proceed.

As mentioned above, this farmer has no intention of living on or near his ranch. We have everything invested in our homes and properties. We have lived and enjoyed our properties for many years, and want to continue.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

s.22



Ministry of
Agriculture

s.79

Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

December 9, 2014

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Very good

Pens

- ☒ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform **(by June 2014)**
If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.

All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment by December 31, 2013

Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

is improving drainage

Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

☐ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

☐ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

*Done this
some before
2013 etc*

Page 162

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.79



Ministry of
Agriculture

October 21, 2013

GENERAL NOTICE

The Ministry has received a higher than normal number of reports of mink in your area, most often in relation to the destruction of poultry.

Section 4.03 of the Fur Farm Regulation states:

Animal pens

4.03 Every licensee shall provide ample and properly constructed pens for the accommodation of his animals, and he shall locate the pens in suitable surroundings that admit of proper drainage, and he shall protect them by a suitable guard fence where the fur bearing animals are kept and liable to escape.

Check your perimeter fencing for areas of possible escape and also for areas where wild mink might be coming on to the property and flourishing. I understand that the culprits in these cases can be wild mink, but the perception is always that it is the farmed mink causing the problem.

If you have any information that may help with responding to these calls, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jane Pritchard BA, DVM, MVetSc
Director
Plant and Animal Health Branch

Euthanasia Protocols

Technique: The goal is to euthanize the animals in a humane, timely and safe manner.

Individual Animal: this is needed in animals that are deemed too ill or injured to be treated successfully or that have not responded to treatment.

-the individual animal euthanasia chamber should:

- be portable; able to be brought cage side
- have enough room for one animal comfortably;
example; either a small box chamber or PVC pipe
- allow easy placement of the animal
- give secure confinement of the animal
- allow for proper administration of the bottled gas through a regulator.
- allow for delivery of appropriate concentration of gas
- allow the mink to remain in the chamber for at least 4 minutes(a timing devise should be part of the setup).

- be designed to allow for easy cleaning

Group euthanasia; pelting

Chamber construction should:

- be sturdy with smooth surfaces that seals tightly and is easily cleanable.
- have a self-closing door on top that allows rapid placement of the animal into the chamber
- setup with a side or bottom opening panel to allow for easy emptying of the chamber and observation of the animals.
- have a clear window that allows for observation of the animals for signs of death.
- use a system that tightly secures the compressed gas cylinder and protects the valve and delivery system.
- have a deadman valve or timed metering system for the administering the gas into the chamber at a predetermined pressure.
- have a timing device that indicates the appropriate

time has lapsed between the last animal that entered and the opening of the chamber.

- the chamber should be charged at the beginning of the round, at the midpoint and immediately after the last animal is introduced.

- ideally a CO concentration meter should be present to check the CO concentration(minimum of 30 ppm) in the tank.

Personnel Safety: goal is to eliminate any exposure of personnel to CO gas from either low levels or high levels due to catastrophic tank or system failure.

Storage of gas cylinders:

- value covers need to be kept in place at all times during storage and handling.

- tanks need to be kept secured from falling over.

- tanks should be stored in a lockable wire enclosure,

- a CO alarm monitor should be in place in the storage area.
- no smoking in the storage area or when handling or using the gas.

Administration of Gas and euthanasia chamber use:

- all personnel must be trained in the safe handling and transport of the cylinders.
- all personnel must be trained in the safe usage of the compressed gas cylinders and the operation of the euthanasia chamber.
- the instructions for the use of the euthanasia chamber should be clearly posted on the chamber.

Personnel Training

- all individuals involved with the euthanasia process.
- explain the safety concerns of CO; colorless,

odorless, tasteless, very toxic at even low levels and explosive when mixed with air.

- explain the concepts of the accumulative effects of low level exposure.

- explain the signs of toxicity; low exercise tolerance, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness.

- have personal exposure monitors for personnel euthanizing the mink.

- explain the need to only charge the chamber and open the chamber in well ventilated areas, outside whenever possible and recognize the wind direction.

- explain the farm's general procedure for euthanizing the mink.

- explain the farm's normal procedures for euthanasia use.

- explain the gas delivery system, its' maintenance and its' evaluation for leaks.

Farm Biosecurity Plan

The goal of a biosecurity plan is for the farm to be able to control the environment in and around the farm and preclude any unwanted entrance of people, animals or material or the escape of any animals.

Biosecurity is defined as a group of management practices designed to minimize or prevent the introduction of infectious agents onto the farm or into the environment.

For a biosecurity plan to work, the farmer must first believe that it is an essential part of the management of the farm. Secondly, the farm must be willing to put forth the considerable effort and finances needed to ensure all involved with the farm will follow the plan.

CFIA has sponsored a “National Farm-Level Mink Biosecurity Standard”.

This is a very extensively developed plan that can be directly adopted to your farm or used as a guide in the development and implementation of your farm specific plan. (“Google”: CFIA mink biosecurity)

The Fur Commission USA, also has “Biosecurity Protocols for Mink Farms in the United States”; which can be another reference.

A plan should be cover 4 basic areas:

- The physical farm itself

- Deliveries to the Farm

- Employees of the farm

- Visitors to the farm

The farm: the objective is to have complete control of the farm environment by controlling the entrance of people, limiting wildlife from entering the farm, keeping the mink from leaving the farm and controlling disease on the farm.

The criteria to be addressed;

- perimeter fencing with gated access
- signage to direct people movement
- disease monitoring program; daily surveillance of illness, periodic disease testing(AD) and routine post mortem examinations.
- feed and water quality testing
- disposal of casualties

Deliveries/pickups

- monitor and control all deliveries; have predetermined procedures for suppliers to follow
- have specific areas for deliveries to use, outside of the mink shed area

- develop a specific entrance protocol for all new mink being brought onto the farm. These should include isolation, disease testing and monitoring
- dumpsters for trash, causalities need to be dedicated to the farm

Visitors: most are welcome, some are not

- control access with a quality perimeter fence and signage
- limit access to people that have not had other mink farm contact
- all visitors need to be supplied coveralls, disposable boots and wash their hands before entering the mink shed area
- instruct all visitors on your biosecurity plan requirements
- properly maintained foot baths should be at all people entrance areas
- monitor all visitors while they are on the farm

Employees: it is essential that all the employees

understand the importance of biosecurity
and abide by the plan.

- you, as owners, are looked up to and used as examples;
it is imperative that you follow the biosecurity plan if
you want your employees to follow the plan!
- fully explain the all aspects of the plan to them
- all employees need to have dedicated coveralls, boots,
gloves,... for use only on the farm.
- have an area for employees to wash their hands before
and after work.
- train employees involved with the mink to recognize
disease and how to report it.

Personnel training to recognize and treat illness and injury

All the personnel involved with working with in the mink yard should have a general knowledge of mink health and wellbeing; so that if they observe a mink that is not conforming to normal appearances, the appropriate people can be notified. Specific personnel that directly involved with the mink on a daily basis need to be instructed on the signs that a mink is not in a normal state of health.

These instructions should first include an in-depth discussion on what normal behavior, activity and appearance of a mink should be for the time of year and examples should be given cage side.

A normal mink is:

- bright, alert and active; this can be influenced by ambient temperature and feeding schedule.
- attentive and inquisitive when approached
- eyes are clear and prominent without discharge
- ~~-move freely without restraint~~
- they are consuming feed on a daily basis and in the same relationship as their neighbors
- they are usually not vocalizing
- they are in appropriate body condition for the time of year.

The personnel should then be instructed on the signs of illness by verbal explanation, pictures, videos and direct cage side examples.

An abnormal mink may show clinical signs of illness by :

- off feed, not consuming the appropriate amounts of feed daily
- depression/inactivity
- abnormal behavior
- diarrhea, runny and/or off colored manure
- coughing
- sneezing
- panting
- discharge from eyes or mouth
- swelling with or without drainage
- lameness
- weight loss
- skin lesions, crusty and scaly areas
- injuries; bite wounds, chewing wounds, lacerations

For any mink that is deemed to be abnormal, a system should be in place to “mark” that mink and record the cage number so a designated person can come back and evaluate the mink and treat if necessary.

Then the determination can be made if this is an individual animal problem or more of a herd problem.

Specific treatment protocols should be written and in place for the personnel to follow for specific illnesses. These treatments should include the medications to be used, the amount to be used, the time frame to use the medication and the time frame for the expected outcome. These need to be discussed and developed by the farm's veterinarian.

An example would be:

Clinical signs; off feed, coughing, depression, discharge from nose in
only a few mink in each shed

Diagnosis; pneumonia, individual animal problem

Treatment #1 for pneumonia;

- specific antibiotic to be used
- amount to be used for type of mink (male, female, kit, adult)
- how many times per day the treatment should be given
- time frame to treat the animal (how many days)
- expected results or response to be seen after treatment is completed; if results are not seen, how to proceed. Try different treatment protocol(ex. treatment #2) or euthanize

Post mortem examinations should be performed on a routine basis, by either experienced farm personnel or the farm veterinarian.

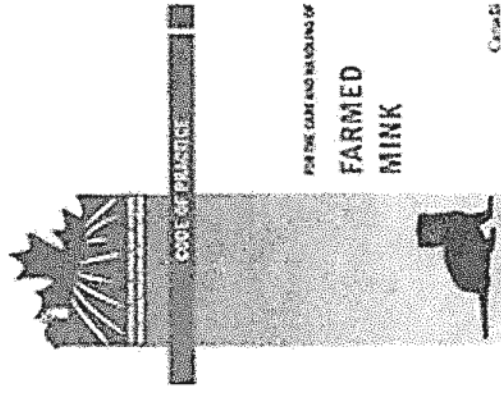
Fur Farm Regulations New Animal Health Act

Jane Pritchard

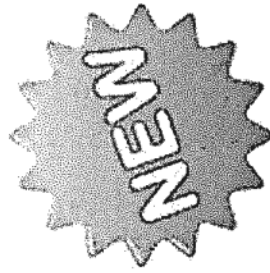
Chief Veterinary Officer BC
Fur, Game and Dairy Manager

Fur Farm Regulations

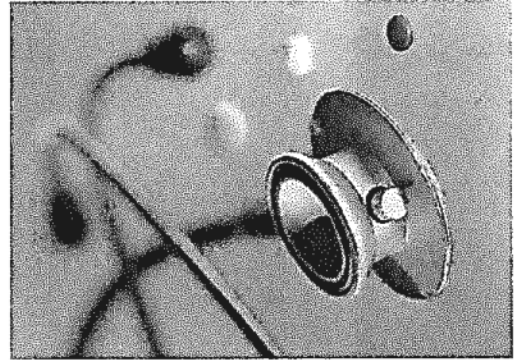
- National Code of Practice for Mink
- Social License, Animal Welfare
- Limited resources
- Current practices
- Social Media



What is new

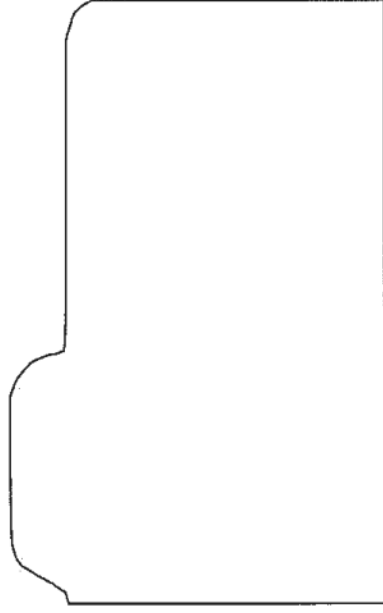


- Health management plan
 - Approved and used
 - Veterinarian or other person used for advice
 - Vaccination
 - Treatment
 - Records
 - Isolation
 - Euthanasia





Records



- Treatments
- Deaths
- Numbers
- Transactions (date, buyer, seller)
- Kept and made available.



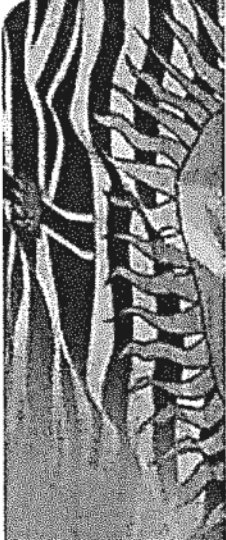
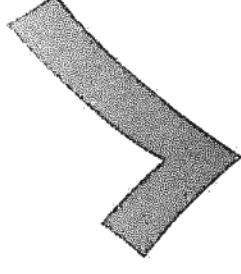
Pens

- Size, Safety, Cleanliness
- Drainage
- Secure
- Hammock, shelf, platform, nest box



Expectations

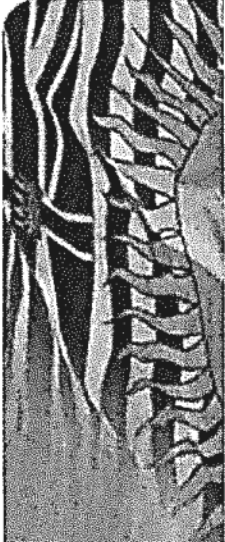
- Making every effort to help you if adjustments are needed in your management
- Individual considerations as long as progress is clearly being made
- Regulated activity under Agriculture – positive thing but it comes with expectations
- No tolerance if compliance is not evident.



Penalties



- Administrative penalties = writing a ticket
- Offence: license, health management plan, compliance with HMP, general health, records, euthanasia, food and water, accommodations, feeding mink to mink.



Questions



- H/O
 - This presentation, and a copy of the new Regulation, Inspection check-list
- BEST solution is to contact us early and discuss what is going on.



Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:
Date:

- ___ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ___ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

Housing

- ___ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions
- ___ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

Pens

- ___ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June 2014) if a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.
- ___ All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment by December 31, 2013

Nest Boxes

- ___ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ___ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.
- ___ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

Bedding

- ___ Bedding is clean and dry.

Environment

- ___ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.
- ___ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Feed

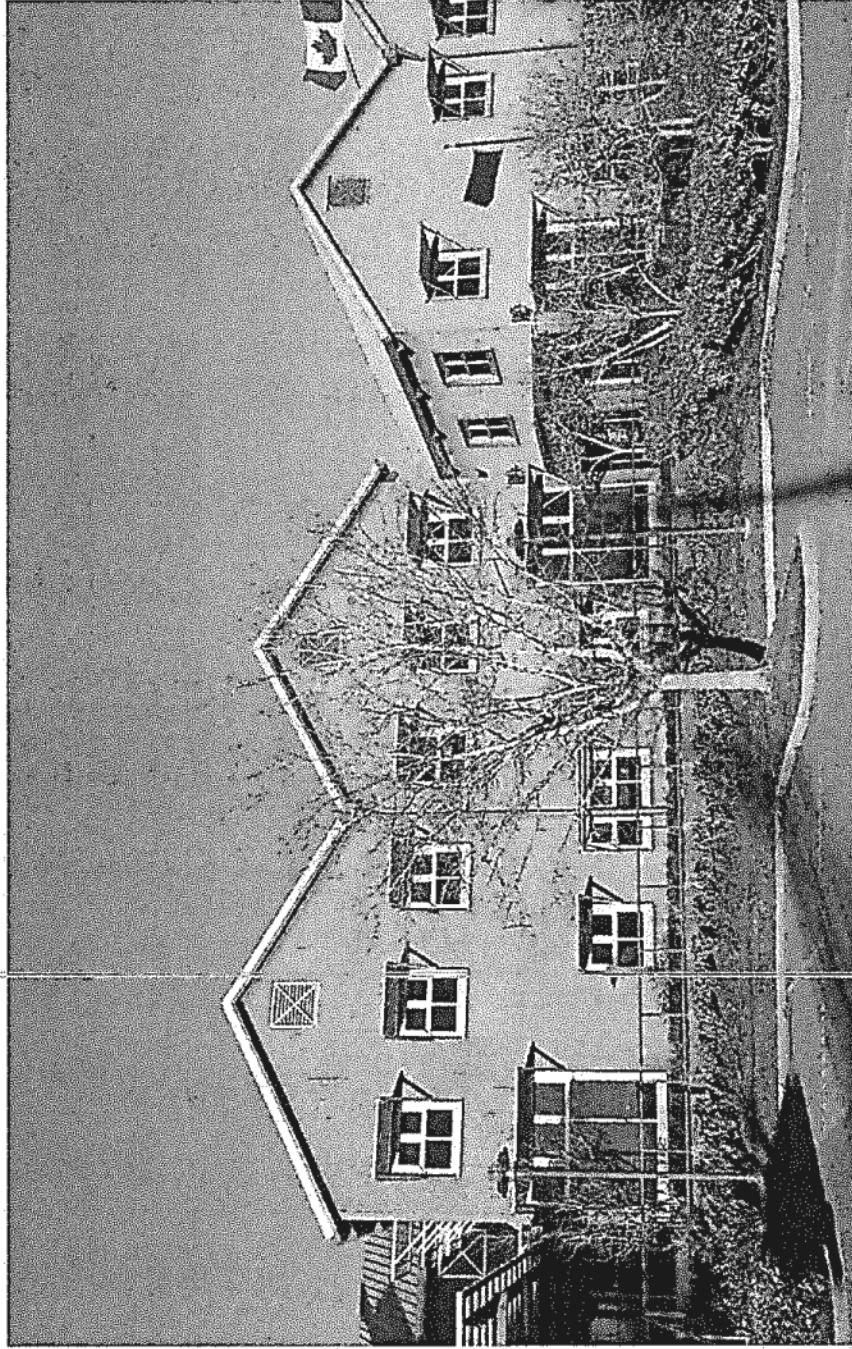
- ___ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.
- ___ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.
- ___ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

Record Keeping

- ___ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:
 - Vet-Client-Patient relationship
 - Mink Identification System
 - Vaccination and treatment records
 - Tracking mortalities
- ___ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

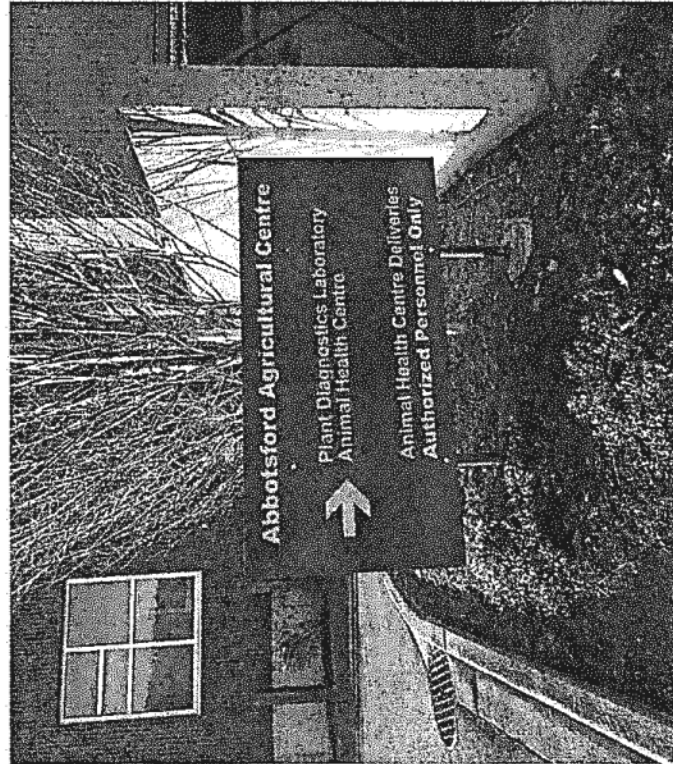
Animal Health Centre: More than your friendly neighbourhood lab

Dr. Ann Britton



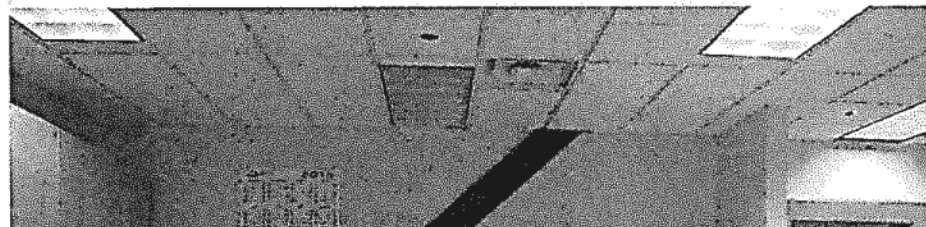
Animal Health Centre

- Accredited full service diagnostic vet lab
- Quality control
- Diagnose, monitor, assist with animal disease problems
- > 5,000 cases per year



AHC personalities

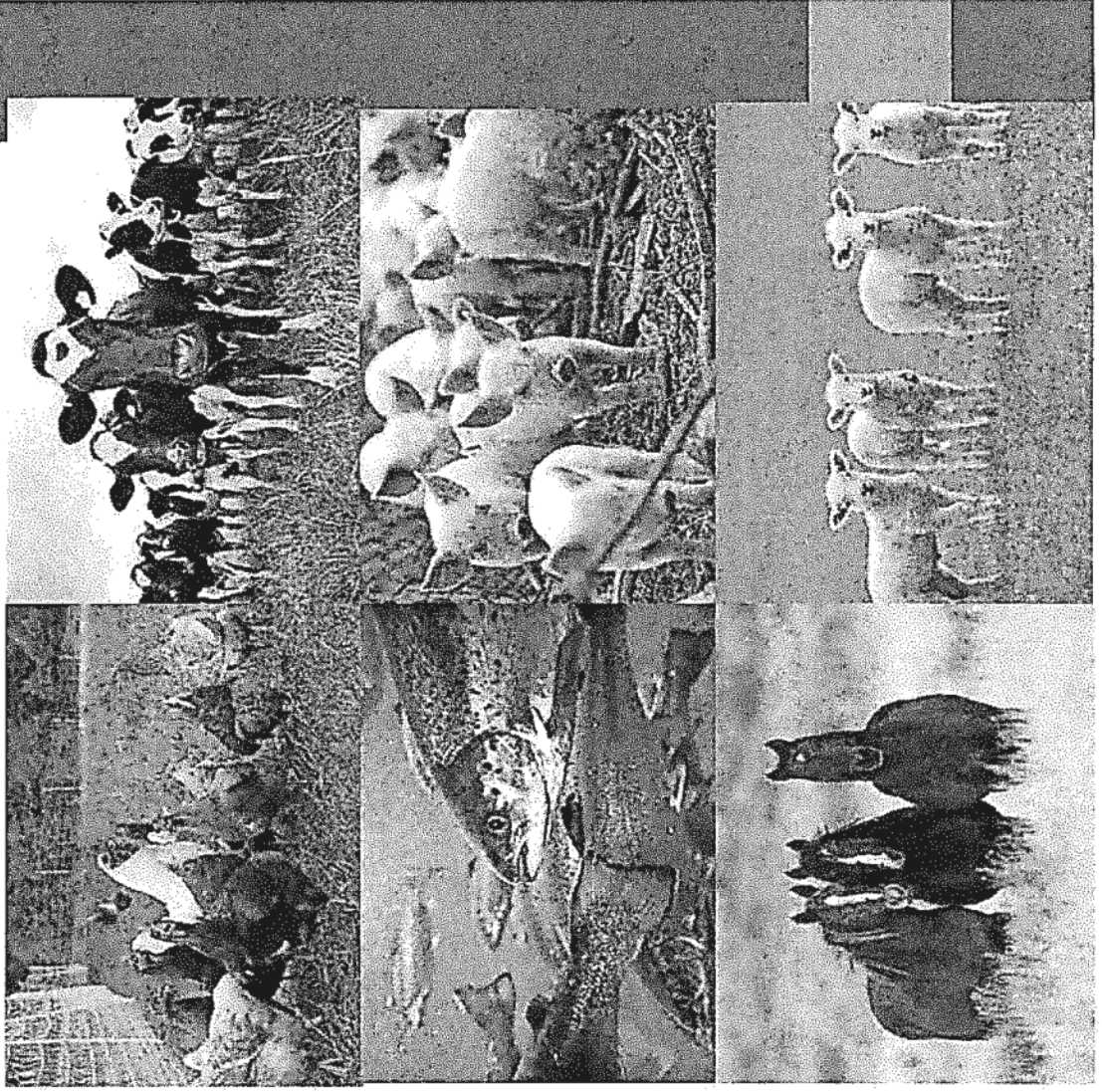
- CVO – Dr. Pritchard
- 11 veterinary specialists
- 4 university appointments
- 1 bee man
- 13 scientists
- 1 financial officer
- 7 support staff



s.22

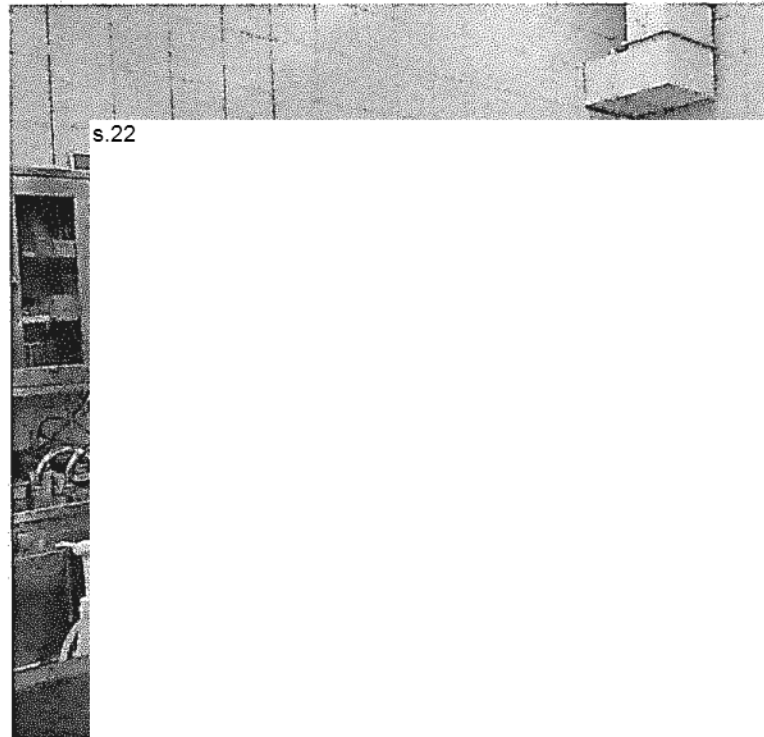
AHC provides diagnostic support for the BC herd:

- 101 million chickens
- 2.7 million turkeys
- 16 million farmed fish
- 540,000 head cattle
- 191,000 pigs
- 146,000 horses,
alpacas, rabbits, etc
- 65,000/325,000 mink
- 46,000 sheep
- 42,500 bee colonies
- 7,800 bison
- **> \$2 billion**



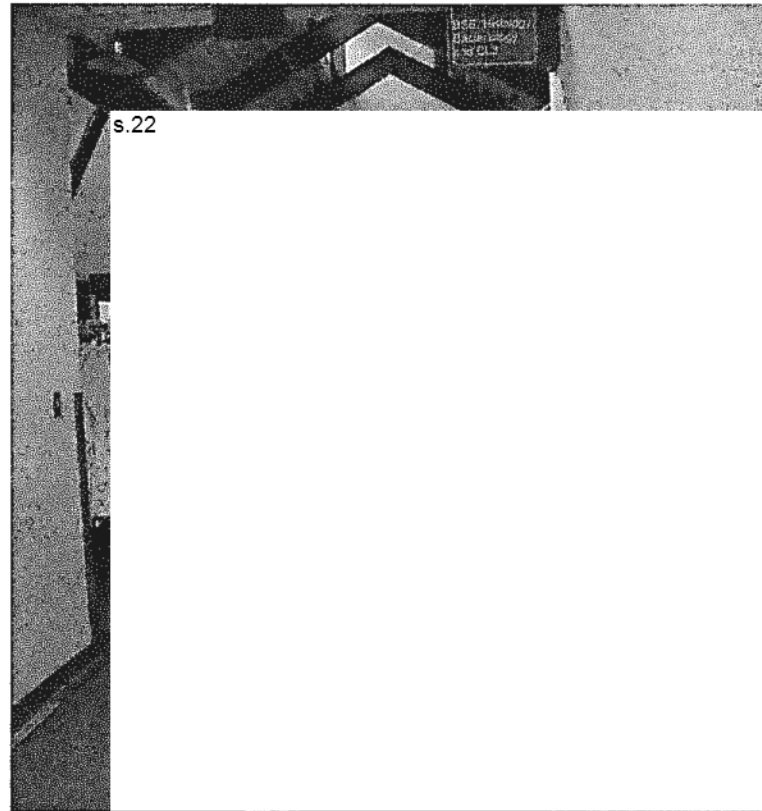
AHC projects monitor:

- Food safety
- Antimicrobial resistance
- *Salmonella* in poultry
- Broiler chicken health
- Turkey mortality
- BSE
- FAD : Avian flu
- Racehorse welfare



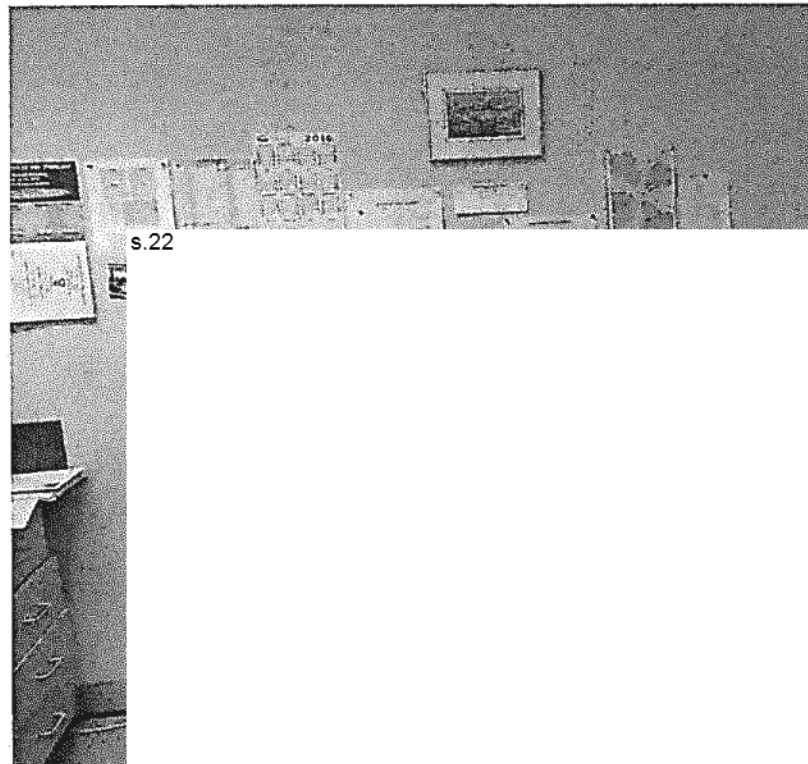
AHC projects support wildlife health

- Wild bird avian influenza
- Wild bird mortality
- Skunks and raccoons
- Frogs
- Marine mammals
- Rats
- Bats
- Aquarium/zoo animals



AHC responds to client needs

- Test development
- Public health support
- Epidemiology studies
- Biosecurity advice
- Influenza sediment study
- Industry support and licencing



Aquaculture support

- Environmentalists sued 2 farms for alleged transfer piscine reovirus to wild fish
- Research program: common in wild fish before fish farming
- Findings: expert report for court & published
- No scientific basis for the lawsuit



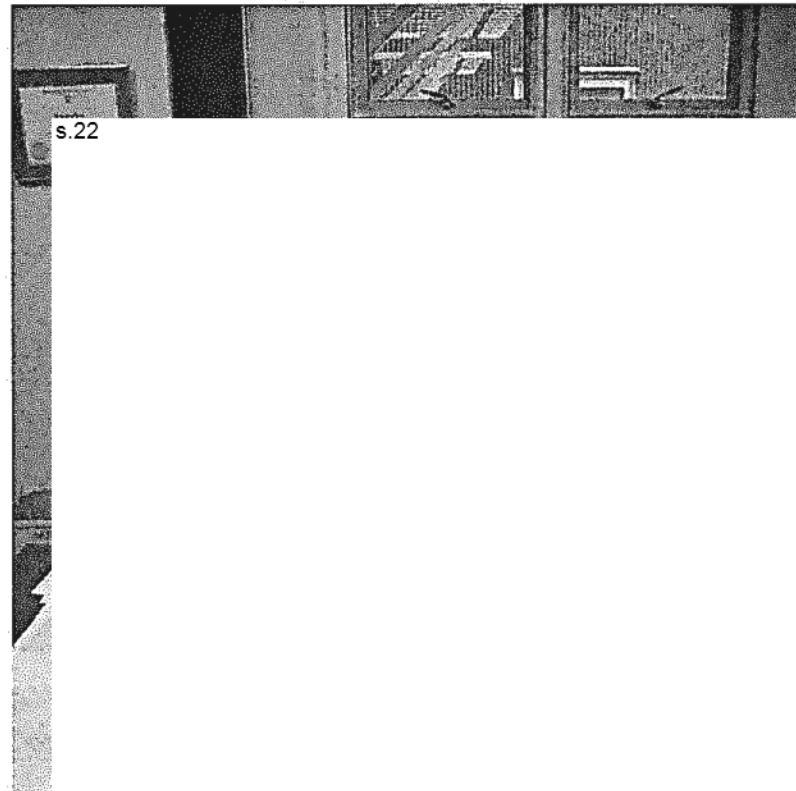
Poultry industry support

- Outbreak of *Salmonella* in people and poultry, linked
- AHC worked with public health and industry to define and eradicate the outbreak using science based methods
- Recommendations for prevention based on understanding problem

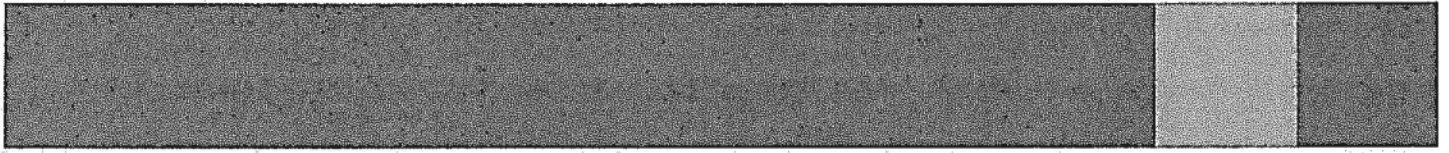
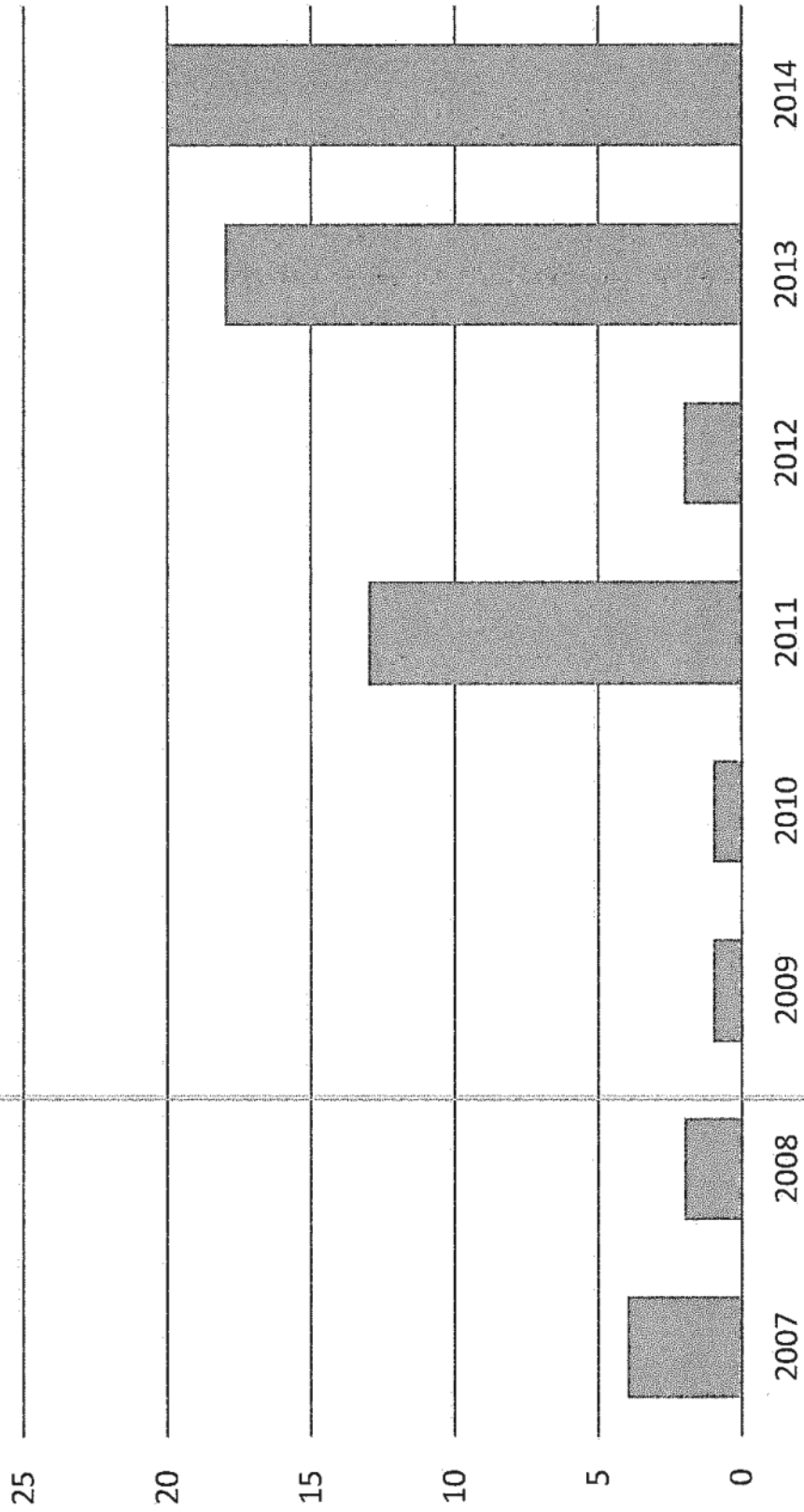


Antimicrobial resistance study

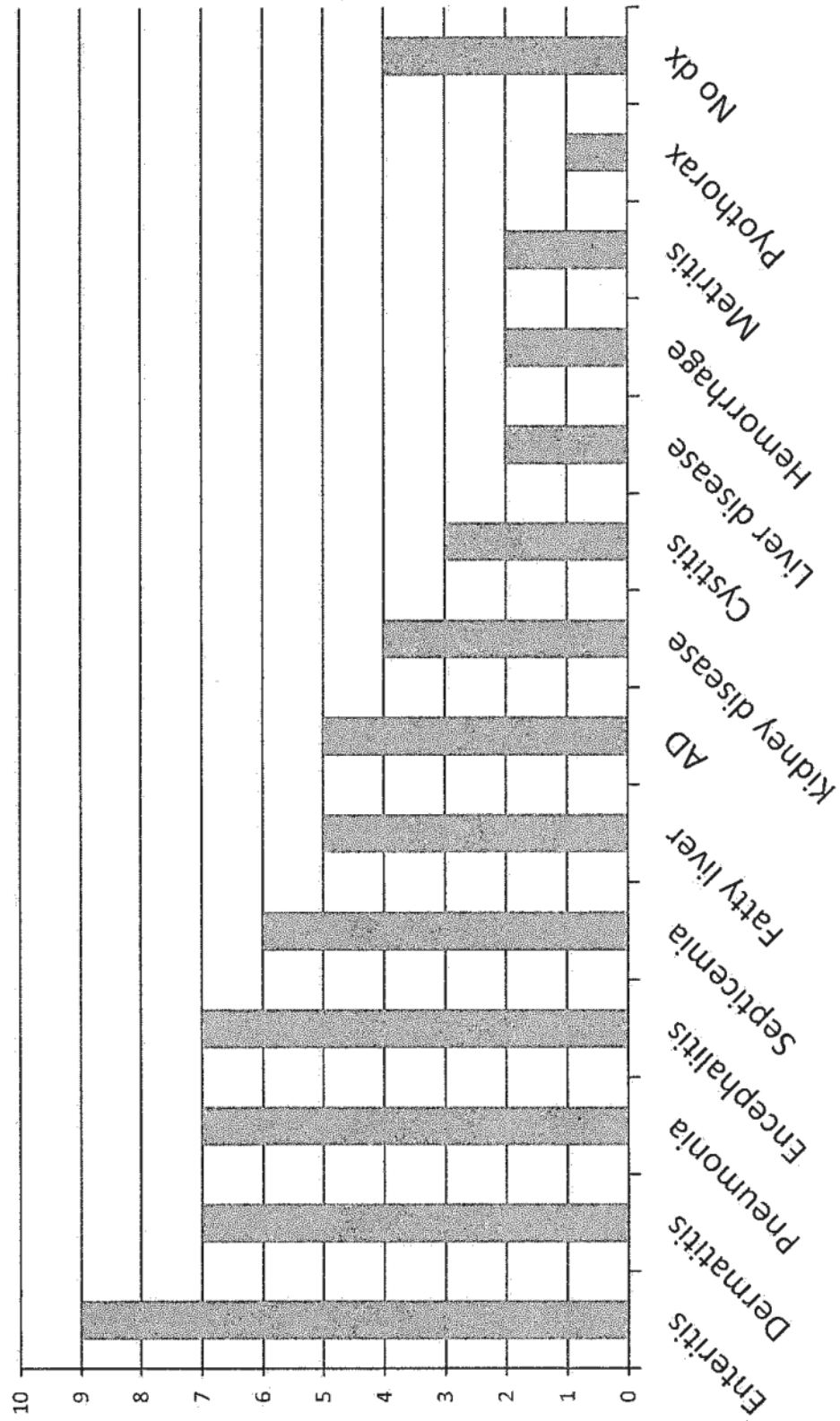
- AMR hot topic in human health
- Finger pointing
- Science based study of antimicrobial use
- Misinterpretation of veterinary usage
- Dialogue – science based solutions



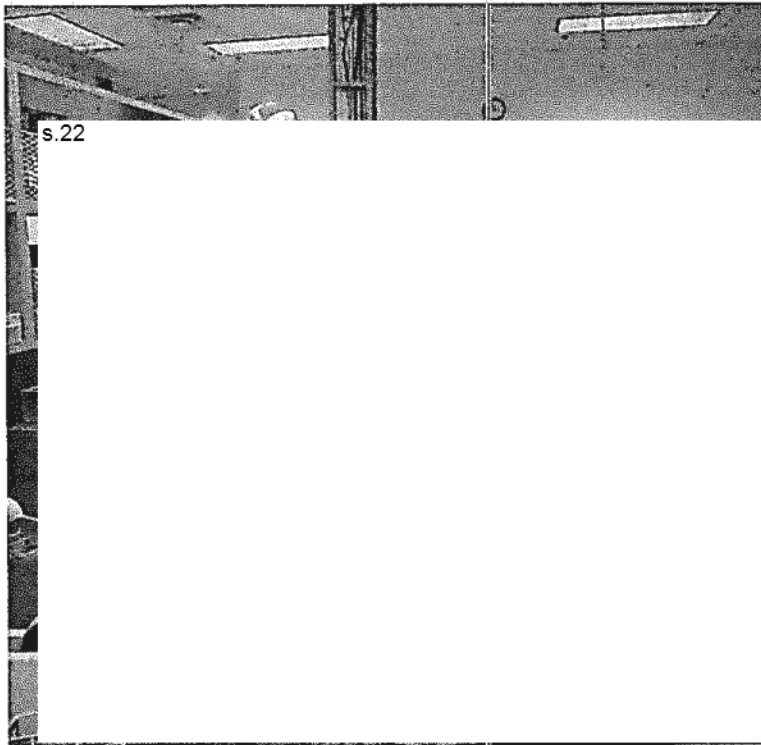
Number of annual mink necropsies conducted at AHC 2007-2014



Diagnosis – 61 cases necropsied at AHC



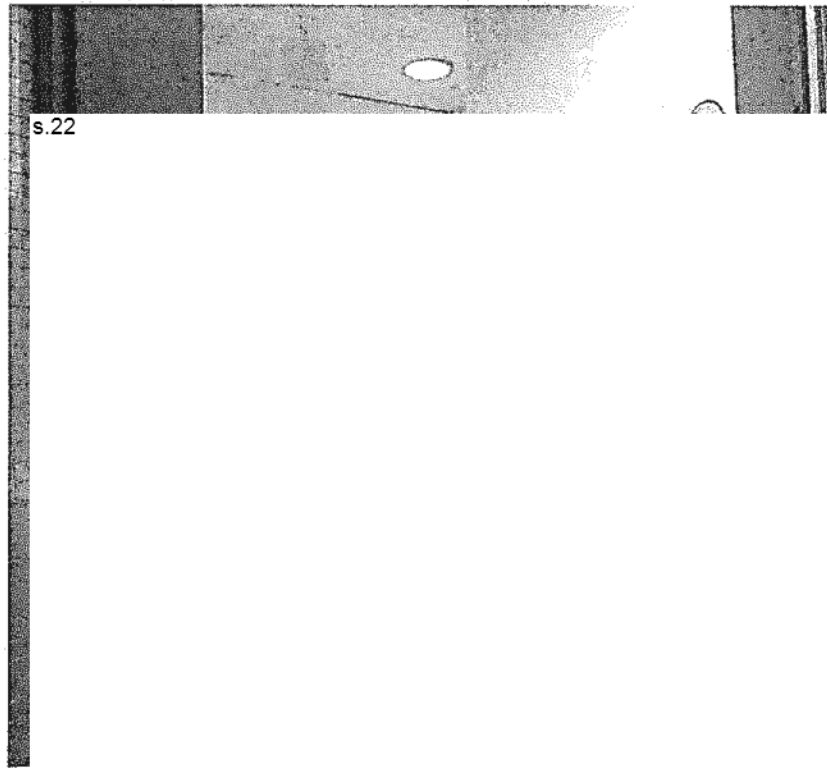
Mink industry



- Licensing
- AD serology testing
- Diagnostic workups
- Spin off project: Study of ADV prevalence in skunks (84%)
- Strain characterization
- Disease spillover between farmed and wild animals

Advantages of a close working relationship with vet lab

- Thorough workup of disease problems
- Confidentiality
- Expertise in FV mink developed at lab
- Understand your needs
- Support through special projects





Reproduction

March 1st

Total

of females kept for breeding/color _____

of males kept for breeding/color _____

April 1st

Total

of females bred/color _____

of females not bred/color _____

April 20th –May 15th

of females whelped/day/color Total

20th _____

21st _____

22nd _____

23rd _____

24th _____

25th _____

26th _____

27th _____

28th _____

29th _____

30th _____

May 1st _____

2nd _____

3rd _____

4th _____

5th _____

6th _____

7th _____

8th _____

9th _____

10th	_____	_____
11th	_____	_____
12th	_____	_____
13th	_____	_____
14th	_____	_____
15th	_____	_____

June 1st	Total
----------	-------

# of females that whelped/color	_____
# of females that didn't whelp/color	_____
# of females that lost litter/color	_____

July 1st	Total
----------	-------

# of kits weaned/female bred/color	_____
------------------------------------	-------

Standard Operating Procedures for a Mink Farm

Records:

Mortalities;

-daily written record of total losses that calendar day. Ideally broken down by males/females, kits or adults and if any specific color phase is involved or a specific area of the farm.

Normal(ideal) losses:

Adult females;

Winter conditioning(December thru February); 1 per 5,000/day

Breeding thru gestation(March thru mid-April); 1 per 5,000/day

Lactation: May 20th thru May 31st; 1/ 5,000/day

June 1st thru June 10th; 2/ 5,000/day

June 10th thru June 20th; 3/ 5,000/day

June 20th thru July 20th; 1 /5,000/day

July 20th thru August 20th; 1/5,000/day

August 20th thru October 20th; .5/5,000/day(weather dependent)

Kits;

May 20th thru May 31st; .05%/day

June 1st thru June 10th; .1%/day

June 11 th thru June 20 th ;	.05% /day
June 21 st thru July 20 th ;	.025%/day
July 21 st thru August 20 th ;	.02%/day(weather dependent)
August 21 st thru October 20 th ;	.02%/day(weather dependent)

Treated Mink;

-Daily written record of mink treated on individual cage cards. Mink need to be "marked" that they are being treated and what specific treatment is being used.

(individual treatment protocols, 1,2,3,4...., as described in the written manual; protocols describe drugs to be used, dosages, duration and expected results)

-Central record of all animals treated, with which protocol and results seen.

- Employees need to be trained to recognize and treat common illnesses or Injuries

Illnesses:

-Off feed; not eating as much feed as its neighbors

-Diarrhea; runny, off colored manure

-Pneumonia; coughing, sneezing, blood around nostrils and/or mouth

-Pussy lung(primarily blue mink), bloody nose, coughing

-Boils/abscesses; swollen area, maybe feel fluid filled or draining fluid

-Mastitis; swollen and/or draining mammary tissue

-Skin lesions; crusty eyes, nose, ears or feet

-Influenza; coughing, sneezing. Low mortality, moves through a farm quickly

Injuries:

- Bite wounds; abscess, bleeding, drainage(neck, feet, tail)
- Lacerations
- Obstructions in mouth; bones, wood pieces....

Treatment protocols for specific problems(medicine, doses, treatment schedules, expected results): (see antibiotic treatment schedule)

Individual animal treatment protocols and Herd treatment protocols

Mastitis- usually an individual animal problem but can become a herd problem, especially subclinical

- Staphs, streps and E coli are the most common.
- can be very aggressive with acute death, most are more chronic with abscessation.
- off feed, firm glands, off colored milk, fever, kits doing poorly
- culture/sensitivity; but common treatments: ampicillin, baytril, gentocin/penicillin; subQ fluids; meloxicam(.2mg/lbs)

Metritis- usually an individual animal problem, primarily due to a retained fetus.

- contaminated environmental conditions at whelping may predispose females.
- clinical signs: depressed, off feed or decreased consumption, kits doing poorly, acute death(ruptured uterus, septicemia)

- treatment same as mastitis.

Pneumonia; primarily bacterial, E coli and pseudomonas(vaccine) are most

common. Pussy Lung, (pyothorax) mostly blue color phase mink.

- depending on time of year, this can present as individual or herd problems. Primarily seen in spring and fall. September/October are high stress times due to large temperature fluctuations, high animal density and metabolic demand from "pushing fur".

- water and food born pathogens.

- treatments: Baytril, Genotcin, Naxcel, Nuflor for injectables; Baytril, Trimethoprin/Sulfa, Amoxicillin for feed.

- Viral pneumonias include; canine distemper(vaccine), influenza(swine, avian). Influenza can spread quickly in a herd, usually doesn't cause much death loss specifically but predisposes the mink to secondary bacterial pneumonia. The exception is when young kits become infected, then the death loss can reach up to 30%.

Diarrhea; common, multifactorial, environmental influences.

- Bacterial: E coli, salmonella, campylobacter, streps, clostridial

- Viral: Mink Enteritis Virus(vaccine); 3 day enteritis(probably a corona or astrovirus). High morbidity with low mortality, production phase dependent.

- kit diarrhea("sticky kits"), astro/corona plus bacterial component, can spread quickly. Environment and management are very important.

- keep nest box and false bottoms clean and dry, wash kits, strict biosecurity between infected litters and clean litters.

Females can be treated with antibiotic individually when incidence is low and thru feed when incidence is high or herd has repeated history of problem every year.

- treatment; erythromycin, neomycin/penicillin, tetra/sulfa

- Coccidiosis: with good management and proper cage design, this is not seen as a major problem. Keeping the nest box and false bottoms clean, usually reduces the occurrence in the kits.

Nursing sickness(nursing anemia): this is a metabolic problem with the female late in lactation. They get into a severe negative energy imbalance along with severe dehydration.

- remove all the kits except 1, start on sub Q fluids(lactated ringers or normal saline) bid, injectable antibiotic and dexamethasone sid.

Dystocia: manual assistance, oxytocin(1/4 to 1/2 cc IM), meloxicam; .2 mg/lbs

Injuries, bite wounds, skin lesions; usually individual mink problem.

- treatment with injectable antibiotics, meloxicam, topical sprays

- ringworm: environmental problem, clean and treat nest boxes and cages with antifungal agents, mink can be feed griseofulvin

Shaking Kit syndrome: astrovirus(different than enteric form), usually self-limiting, good nursing care

Fleas: can be major problem during lactation and weaning.

Clean environment well, treat bedding and mink with permethrin (kits can be dusted as early as 5 days) and/or other insecticide (small animal).

Cystitis/Urolithiasis: bacterial and/or metabolic. Feed and water composition play an important role. Try to keep urinary pH low (6.2-6.4), feed pH around 5.2; most farms add phosphoric acid or sodium bisulfate to the feed.

-Antibiotic treatments for cystitis; sulfas, penicillin, amoxicillin

Body Score (1, very thin to 5, obese) for "adult" males and females; see chart

Winter conditioning: Starting at 4 to 5 in November; slow regression to 2 in mid-February.

Prebreeding (mid to late February): 2

Post breeding (mid-March): 2 to 3

Gestation (mid-March to late April): starting at 3 progressing to 3.5 to 4

Lactation (late April to mid June): Maintaining at 3.5

Reproduction monitoring

- # of females exposed to a male
- # of females bred

- # of males at the beginning of the season
- # of males that bred at least 1 female
- # of females that had at least 1 kit
- # of females that didn't have a kit but was bred (zeroed out)
- # of kits born; # alive, # dead / female on day 1
- # of females that had at least 1 kit but then lost all kits (wipe out)
- # of kits at day 10 or 14/ litter
- # of kits weaned; herd average/female bred

Growth rate for kits: see chart

- monitor kit weights at week 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or every week if possible

Vaccination: United Vaccines, Inc. products:

Manufactured in Madison, Wisconsin

Finnie Distributing; St Marys, On;

Jeff Richardson; 519-284-2080

Canadian distribution center for the MVCRS

Biocom-P: Mink Enteritis Virus(killed)

Pseudomonas aeruginosa(bacterim)

Botulism type C (toxoid)

Distemink: Canine Distemper Virus(modified live)

Both products are given sub Q; 1 cc dosage

Kits can be vaccinated with Biocom-P starting at 6 weeks of age

Kits can be vaccinated with Distemink starting at 10 weeks of age

Both products can be given at the same time (starting at 10 weeks),
they cannot be combined and they must be given in two separate sites.

Proper storage, handling and vaccination technique need to be
followed.

Syringe maintenance, function, cleaning and sanitation need to be
addressed on an ongoing basis.

Management

Biosecurity: - CFAI National Farm-Level Mink Biosecurity Standard

-Biosecurity Protocols for the Operation of Mink farms in the United States(Fur Commission USA)

Problem Solving = recognition, observation, evaluation, correction

Lighting Protocols

-Males: maximum testicular development by mid to late January, maximum testosterone levels at late January. Testosterone levels dropping by late February/early March as libido is dramatically rising.

-common practice on farms is to “testicle check” the males by the first 2 weeks of January; at least 1/2 “ in size, also check for position and firmness.

-the males(only) are exposed to 2 hours of extra light each day during the first 2 weeks of February; then returned to normal lighting.

-Females: maintain normal natural lighting from pelting through the first 2 weeks of breeding. Some farms have gone to turning on the lights in the sheds from mid-February through breeding, but only during normal daylight hours in hopes of ensuring that minimum levels of light are reached.

-the photosensitive period for implantation is 12 -15 hours after dawn,

with 90 minutes of light exposure needed to increase implantation.

-most farms are starting to "light the females" around the 14th to 15th of March. The majority of females have had their 2nd round of breeding by then. They added 2 hours of light at the end of the day and keep the lights until the 15th of April. This stimulates implantation early which helps to synchronize the whelp and increase embryo survivability.

Manure: handling, removal, disposal

Reason: Sanitation, fly control, odor control, air quality and governmental regulation

Manure Handling

Bio-secure manner, dedicated equipment

Manure removal

Routine removal when climate conditions allow.

- Removal of manure as soon as thawing allows(decrease ammonia levels)
- Before kits are born(Increase air quality, increase environmental sanitation, fly control)
- Continually throughout the summer; this is influenced by land availability and crop rotation.(increased air quality, fly control)

- spray on treatments to reduce ammonia levels(More than Manure)

Disposal

- Covered composting
- Off-site spreading, disease concerns to environment(ADV)
- Covered storage, then spreading when land is available

Mortality handling

- Mark cages by person feeding
- Non-feeder picks up casualties with dedicated gloves and pale
- Casualties are either frozen for skinning later in dedicated freezer or freezer area; or disposed of immediately by:
 - incineration
 - burial
 - composting
 - (spreading with manure is not acceptable)

Fly control

- continual manure removal during appropriate times
- decrease water exposure to manure and bedding
- feed through larvacide
- sprays, baits, adhesives
- biologic control(wasps)

Pest control

- Birds;
 - netting
 - shed door closures
 - deterrents(hawk decoys, artificial hawk sounds)
- Rodents
 - rodenticides
 - regular manure and old feed removal
 - rodent proof feed storage
 - professional exterminator
 - cats; vaccinated, fleas control, ringworm free

Extreme weather conditions

- cold, blowing rain/snow;
 - adequate bedding available
 - covering(plastic) for sides of conventional sheds
- hot, humid weather
 - mistifiers
 - water bowls
 - fans

- water hoses
- sprinklers on roofs

Euthanasia

- sick and/or injured animals
- pelting
- Individual animal chamber (Co₂, CO)
 - PVC tube, regulator, compressed gas bottle
- group chamber(CO compressed gas)
 - colorless, odorless, tasteless
 - slightly lighter than air
 - kill concentration around 30 ppm
 - rapidly absorbed, chemical bond to RBC(heme)
 - regular chamber maintenance, gas bottle security
 - gas tight at operating pressures, step-down regulator
 - ~~-operating procedure clearing appearing on chamber~~
- Safety protocols in place and operator training preformed
 - accumulation of toxic effect
 - store in secure, well-ventilated area
 - explosive when mix with air/oxygen, NO smoking
 - monitor for leaks and exposure with real time monitors

- fill and open kill box in well-ventilated area, monitor wind and air movement.

Disease monitoring

- death loss is recorded daily
- daily treatments are recorded
- routine post mortem examinations performed on casualties (support program being developed)
- feed products are routinely cultured
 - develop consistent and biosecure method to take and ship samples
- water is routinely cultured
- ration is routinely checked that it is being prepared correctly
 - develop written training protocol for employees feed handling, feed storage, equipment operation, ration mixing.
- ADV testing on historically negative farms:
 - periodic testing of casualties with the lateral flow test
 - testing 15-20% of breeder females in the winter and all breeder males with the lateral flow or CIEP test.
 - testing all females that didn't whelp.
- ADV testing on historically positive farms

- all breeders after pelting using the IAT or QElisa; selecting for the lower antibody level mink.
- old females that produced very well are kept
- all breeders are tested in early to mid-February.

Any mink that escape their cages and are found roaming the farm need to be caught and caged in a semi-isolated area and marked for pelting.

Pelting carcasses need to be kept confined and covered until disposal.

- composting
- burial
- rendering(only previously cleaned and sanitized dumpsters should be brought onto the farm and those dumpsters should be dedicated to the farm for the season.)

Isolation and pre-entrance protocol; see biosecurity guidelines.

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: cmba@ica.net
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 4:17 PM
To: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Fw: will you help us #MakeFurHistory?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Alan Herscovici
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 6:03 PM
To: cmba@ica.net
Subject: FW: will you help us #MakeFurHistory?

From: The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals [<mailto:news@furbearerdefenders.com>]
Sent: November-03-14 8:07 AM

Copyright

Page 055 to/à Page 056

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 10:55 AM
To: s.22,s.79
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Herd Health Documents
Attachments: Reproduction records.docx; Standard Operating Procedures for a Mink Farm.docx; Wellness Audit Euthanasia Protocols.docx; Wellness Audit Farm Biosecurity Plan.docx; Wellness Audit Personnel training to recognize and treat illness and injury.docx; Copy of Herd Health Spreadsheet (003).xlsx; Copy of Casualties and Body score.xlsx; Body score chart.pdf

Hi s.79

Hope all is going well. Thanks again for the mink spleens.

Could you please send these documents to the farmers. Also would you please add s.79 email to your list.
s.79

Thanks and cheers
Ann

From: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 8:46 AM
To: Britton, Ann P AGRI:EX; Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: Herd Health Documents

I would appreciate your feedback on the documents, and suggestion on how best to get these documents to each licensed mink farmer.

Thanks
jane

From: Nancy Daigneault [<mailto:ndaigneault@iftf.com>]
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 5:16 PM
To: Dr. Bob Perry; Dr. Kadri Uukkivi; Gary Hazlewood; Heather Anhalt; s.22
s.22 rob@mainstreetanimalhospital.ca; Tapscott, Brian (OMAFRA)
Cc: s.22 Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX
Subject: Herd Health Documents

All,

Hope everyone has had an enjoyable fall. As we gear up for the IFF herd health program's inception in Ontario, BC and Manitoba, Dr. Easley has asked me to forward you some documents on the program as it has been developed. Please review the relevant documents and let us know if you think there need to be any revisions or changes or suggested alternations.

We are currently putting together a draft email which will be sent to the ranchers in Ontario/BC/Manitoba. Brian Tapscott will take care of the ranchers list in Ontario but I am hoping that perhaps Jane in BC can help us get the email out to ranchers in BC; Ken – perhaps you can help compile a list in Manitoba?

Once we gather all pertinent emails, we can send one out which will outline the program and ask those interested to contact me and I will send them the participating vet emails and contact information. We are aiming for the program to begin in January- February for the first visits. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Nancy

Standard Operating Procedures for a Mink Farm

Records:

Mortalities;

-daily written record of total losses that calendar day. Ideally broken down by males/females, kits or adults and if any specific color phase is involved or a specific area of the farm.

Normal(ideal) losses:

Adult females;

Winter conditioning(December thru February); 1 per 5,000/day

Breeding thru gestation(March thru mid-April); 1 per 5,000/day

Lactation: May 20th thru May 31st; 1/ 5,000/day

June 1st thru June 10th; 2/ 5,000/day

June 10th thru June 20th; 3/ 5,000/day

June 20th thru July 20th; 1 /5,000/day

July 20th thru August 20th; 1/5,000/day

August 20th thru October 20th; .5/5,000/day(weather dependent)

Kits;

May 20th thru May 31st; .05%/day

June 1st thru June 10th; .1%/day

June 11 th thru June 20 th ;	.05% /day
June 21 st thru July 20 th ;	.025%/day
July 21 st thru August 20 th ;	.02%/day(weather dependent)
August 21 st thru October 20 th ;	.02%/day(weather dependent)

Treated Mink;

- Daily written record of mink treated on individual cage cards. Mink need to be "marked" that they are being treated and what specific treatment is being used. (individual treatment protocols, 1,2,3,4...., as described in the written manual; protocols describe drugs to be used, dosages, duration and expected results)
- Central record of all animals treated, with which protocol and results seen.
- Employees need to be trained to recognize and treat common illnesses or Injuries

Illnesses:

- Off feed; not eating as much feed as its neighbors
- Diarrhea; runny, off colored manure
- Pneumonia; coughing, sneezing, blood around nostrils and/or mouth
- Pussy lung(primarily blue mink), bloody nose, coughing
- Boils/abscesses; swollen area, maybe feel fluid filled or draining fluid
- Mastitis; swollen and/or draining mammary tissue
- Skin lesions; crusty eyes, nose, ears or feet
- Influenza; coughing, sneezing. Low mortality, moves through a farm quickly

Injuries:

- Bite wounds; abscess, bleeding, drainage(neck, feet, tail)
- Lacerations
- Obstructions in mouth; bones, wood pieces....

Treatment protocols for specific problems(medicine, doses, treatment schedules, expected results): (see antibiotic treatment schedule)

Individual animal treatment protocols and Herd treatment protocols

Mastitis- usually an individual animal problem but can become a herd problem, especially subclinical

- Staphs, streps and E coli are the most common.
- can be very aggressive with acute death, most are more chronic with abscessation.
- off feed, firm glands, off colored milk, fever, kits doing poorly
- culture/sensitivity; but common treatments: ampicillin, baytril, gentocin/penicillin; subQ fluids; meloxicam(.2mg/lbs)

Metritis- usually an individual animal problem, primarily due to a retained fetus.

- contaminated environmental conditions at whelping may predispose females.
- clinical signs: depressed, off feed or decreased consumption, kits doing poorly, acute death(ruptured uterus, septicemia)

- treatment same as mastitis.

Pneumonia; primarily bacterial, E coli and pseudomonas(vaccine) are most

common. Pussy Lung, (pyothorax) mostly blue color phase mink.

- depending on time of year, this can present as individual or herd problems. Primarily seen in spring and fall. September/October are high stress times due to large temperature fluctuations, high animal density and metabolic demand from "pushing fur".

- water and food born pathogens.

- treatments: Baytril, Genotcin, Naxcel, Nuflor for injectables; Baytril, Trimethoprin/Sulfa, Amoxicillin for feed.

- Viral pneumonias include; canine distemper(vaccine), influenza(swine, avian). Influenza can spread quickly in a herd, usually doesn't cause much death loss specifically but predisposes the mink to secondary bacterial pneumonia. The exception is when young kits become infected, then the death loss can reach up to 30%.

Diarrhea; common, multifactorial, environmental influences.

- Bacterial: E coli, salmonella, campylobacter, streps, clostridial

- Viral: Mink Enteritis Virus(vaccine); 3 day enteritis(probably a corona or astrovirus). High morbidity with low mortality, production phase dependent.

- kit diarrhea("sticky kits"), astro/corona plus bacterial component, can spread quickly. Environment and management are very important.

- keep nest box and false bottoms clean and dry, wash kits, strict biosecurity between infected litters and clean litters.

Females can be treated with antibiotic individually when incidence is low and thru feed when incidence is high or herd has repeated history of problem every year.

- treatment; erythromycin, neomycin/penicillin, tetra/sulfa

- Coccidiosis: with good management and proper cage design, this is not seen as a major problem. Keeping the nest box and false bottoms clean, usually reduces the occurrence in the kits.

Nursing sickness(nursing anemia): this is a metabolic problem with the female late in lactation. They get into a severe negative energy imbalance along with severe dehydration.

- remove all the kits except 1, start on sub Q fluids(lactated ringers or normal saline) bid, injectable antibiotic and dexamethasone sid.

Dystocia: manual assistance, oxytocin(1/4 to 1/2 cc IM), meloxicam; .2 mg/lbs

Injuries, bite wounds, skin lesions; usually individual mink problem.

- treatment with injectable antibiotics, meloxicam, topical sprays

- ringworm: environmental problem, clean and treat nest boxes and cages with antifungal agents, mink can be feed griseofulvin

Shaking Kit syndrome: astrovirus(different than enteric form), usually self-limiting, good nursing care

Fleas: can be major problem during lactation and weaning.

Clean environment well, treat bedding and mink with permethrin (kits can be dusted as early as 5 days) and/or other insecticide (small animal).

Cystitis/Urolithiasis: bacterial and/or metabolic. Feed and water composition play an important role. Try to keep urinary pH low (6.2-6.4), feed pH around 5.2; most farms add phosphoric acid or sodium bisulfate to the feed.

-Antibiotic treatments for cystitis; sulfas, penicillin, amoxicillin

Body Score (1, very thin to 5, obese) for "adult" males and females; see chart

Winter conditioning: Starting at 4 to 5 in November; slow regression to 2 in mid-February.

Prebreeding (mid to late February): 2

Post breeding (mid-March): 2 to 3

Gestation (mid-March to late April): starting at 3 progressing to 3.5 to 4

Lactation (late April to mid June): Maintaining at 3.5

Reproduction monitoring

- # of females exposed to a male
- # of females bred

- # of males at the beginning of the season
- # of males that bred at least 1 female
- # of females that had at least 1 kit
- # of females that didn't have a kit but was bred (zeroed out)
- # of kits born; # alive, # dead / female on day 1
- # of females that had at least 1 kit but then lost all kits (wipe out)
- # of kits at day 10 or 14/ litter
- # of kits weaned; herd average/female bred

Growth rate for kits: see chart

- monitor kit weights at week 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or every week if possible

Vaccination: United Vaccines, Inc. products:

Manufactured in Madison, Wisconsin

Finnie Distributing; St Marys, On;

Jeff Richardson; 519-284-2080

Canadian distribution center for the MVCRS

Biocom-P: Mink Enteritis Virus(killed)

Pseudomonas aeruginosa(bacterim)

Botulism type C (toxoid)

Distemink: Canine Distemper Virus(modified live)

Both products are given sub Q; 1 cc dosage

Kits can be vaccinated with Biocom-P starting at 6 weeks of age

Kits can be vaccinated with Distemink starting at 10 weeks of age

Both products can be given at the same time (starting at 10 weeks),
they cannot be combined and they must be given in two separate sites.

Proper storage, handling and vaccination technique need to be
followed.

Syringe maintenance, function, cleaning and sanitation need to be
addressed on an ongoing basis.

Management

Biosecurity: - CFAI National Farm-Level Mink Biosecurity Standard

-Biosecurity Protocols for the Operation of Mink farms in the United States(Fur Commission USA)

Problem Solving = recognition, observation, evaluation, correction

Lighting Protocols

-Males: maximum testicular development by mid to late January, maximum testosterone levels at late January. Testosterone levels dropping by late February/early March as libido is dramatically rising.

-common practice on farms is to "testicle check" the males by the first 2 weeks of January; at least 1/2 " in size, also check for position and firmness.

-the males(only) are exposed to 2 hours of extra light each day during the first 2 weeks of February; then returned to normal lighting.

-Females: maintain normal natural lighting from pelting through the first 2 weeks of breeding. Some farms have gone to turning on the lights in the sheds from mid-February through breeding, but only during normal daylight hours in hopes of ensuring that minimum levels of light are reached.

-the photosensitive period for implantation is 12 -15 hours after dawn,

with 90 minutes of light exposure needed to increase implantation.

-most farms are starting to "light the females" around the 14th to 15th of March. The majority of females have had their 2nd round of breeding by then. They added 2 hours of light at the end of the day and keep the lights until the 15th of April. This stimulates implantation early which helps to synchronize the whelp and increase embryo survivability.

Manure: handling, removal, disposal

Reason: Sanitation, fly control, odor control, air quality and governmental regulation

Manure Handling

Bio-secure manner, dedicated equipment

Manure removal

Routine removal when climate conditions allow.

- Removal of manure as soon as thawing allows(decrease ammonia levels)
- Before kits are born(Increase air quality, increase environmental sanitation, fly control)
- Continually throughout the summer; this is influenced by land availability and crop rotation.(increased air quality, fly control)

- spray on treatments to reduce ammonia levels(More than Manure)

Disposal

- Covered composting
- Off-site spreading, disease concerns to environment(ADV)
- Covered storage, then spreading when land is available

Mortality handling

- Mark cages by person feeding
- Non-feeder picks up casualties with dedicated gloves and pale
- Casualties are either frozen for skinning later in dedicated freezer or freezer area; or disposed of immediately by:
 - incineration
 - burial
 - composting
 - (spreading with manure is not acceptable)

Fly control

- continual manure removal during appropriate times
- decrease water exposure to manure and bedding
- feed through larvacide
- sprays, baits, adhesives
- biologic control(wasps)

Pest control

- Birds;
 - netting
 - shed door closures
 - deterrents(hawk decoys, artificial hawk sounds)
- Rodents
 - rodenticides
 - regular manure and old feed removal
 - rodent proof feed storage
 - professional exterminator
 - cats; vaccinated, fleas control, ringworm free

Extreme weather conditions

- cold, blowing rain/snow;
 - adequate bedding available
 - covering(plastic) for sides of conventional sheds
- hot, humid weather
 - misters
 - water bowls
 - fans

- water hoses
- sprinklers on roofs

Euthanasia

- sick and/or injured animals
- pelting
- Individual animal chamber (Co₂, CO)
 - PVC tube, regulator, compressed gas bottle
- group chamber(CO compressed gas)
 - colorless, odorless, tasteless
 - slightly lighter than air
 - kill concentration around 30 ppm
 - rapidly absorbed, chemical bond to RBC(heme)
 - regular chamber maintenance, gas bottle security
 - gas tight at operating pressures, step-down regulator
 - ~~-operating procedure clearing appearing on chamber~~
- Safety protocols in place and operator training preformed
 - accumulation of toxic effect
 - store in secure, well-ventilated area
 - explosive when mix with air/oxygen, NO smoking
 - monitor for leaks and exposure with real time monitors

- fill and open kill box in well-ventilated area, monitor wind and air movement.

Disease monitoring

- death loss is recorded daily
- daily treatments are recorded
- routine post mortem examinations performed on casualties (support program being developed)
- feed products are routinely cultured
 - develop consistent and biosecure method to take and ship samples
- water is routinely cultured
- ration is routinely checked that it is being prepared correctly
 - develop written training protocol for employees feed handling, feed storage, equipment operation, ration mixing.
- ADV testing on historically negative farms:
 - periodic testing of casualties with the lateral flow test
 - testing 15-20% of breeder females in the winter and all breeder males with the lateral flow or CIEP test.
 - testing all females that didn't whelp.
- ADV testing on historically positive farms

- all breeders after pelting using the IAT or QElisa; selecting for the lower antibody level mink.
- old females that produced very well are kept
- all breeders are tested in early to mid-February.

Any mink that escape their cages and are found roaming the farm need to be caught and caged in a semi-isolated area and marked for pelting.

Pelting carcasses need to be kept confined and covered until disposal.

- composting
- burial
- rendering(only previously cleaned and sanitized dumpsters should be brought onto the farm and those dumpsters should be dedicated to the farm for the season.)

Isolation and pre-entrance protocol; see biosecurity guidelines.

Ministry of Agriculture

Learning and Development Travel Approval

For Out-of-Province/Country Travel Requests

(This document is to accompany the travel approval e-form required for out-of-province/country travel. You can find the travel approval e-form [here](#) under 'E-Forms Plus'.)

Provide a brief summary of the learning and development request.

I am requesting support to travel to Banff Alberta for the Canadian Mink Breeders Association (CMBA) annual meeting.

Does the learning and development request align with your MyPerformance plan?

Yes. Part of MyPerformance plan includes fostering a closer relationship between the Animal Health Centre with the mink industry. I will achieve this goal by learning more about mink farm management including disease processes by participating in educational meetings such as the being held in Banff in August this year.

Provide a brief description explaining the relation to critical operational requirements or Ministry goals.

I have been invited by the president of the Canadian Mink Breeders Association to attend their annual meeting. This meeting hosts a forum on mink health and welfare issues with experts from across Canada in attendance and experts from around the world providing information. The Canadian mink industry is presently attempting to forge closer ties with veterinarians in the country and they have identified the Animal Health Centre as the veterinary node they prefer to work with in BC.

The industry is transitioning to adopting the Mink National Code of Practice. The industry is now required to have a herd health program for which they need veterinary support, and a named veterinarian that they work with. These changes are part of the new Fur Farm regulation brought into force in 2015 which proactively address some of the issues raised with the undercover video shot on BC mink farms last year about the health and welfare of farmed mink. BC has not had general or veterinary expertise in mink for some time and attending this conference will help to address that deficiency.

Having veterinary expertise in mink health is required to support the mink fur industry transition to higher health and welfare standards now required under BC legislation.

How will work continue in your absence from the office?

My colleagues will cover my work in my absence.

What are the implications of not travelling?

We would be sending a message that we are not interested in and not serious about forging a good relationship with BC and Canadian mink farmers if no one attends this meeting.

Have alternatives to travel have been considered?

There are no alternative to travel for this particular meeting.

Is this cost-shared and if so what percentage and with what organization?

No.

Note: For activities requiring out-of-province travel, a report must be prepared and provided to the supervisor to ensure information collected from that activity will be shared and communicated with colleagues across the Ministry where applicable.

Normal(ideal) losses:

Adult females:

Winter conditioning(December thru February); 1

Breeding thru gestation(March thru mid-April); 1

Kits

May 20th thru May 31st; .05%/day

June 1st thru June 10th; .1%

June 11th thru June 20th; .05%

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Treated Mink

* Daily written record of mink treated on individual cage card specific treatment is being used. (individual treatment protocol drugs to be used, results)

* Central record of all animals treated, with which protocol used

* Employees need to be trained to recognize and treat common

Illnesses

Off feed; not eating as much feed as its neighbors

Diarrhea; runny, off colored manure

Pneumonia; coughing, sneezing, blood around nostrils and/c

Pussy lung(primarily blue mink), bloody nose, coughing

Boils/abscesses; swollen area, maybe feel fluid filled or drain

Mastitis; swollen and/or draining mammary tissue

Skin lesions; crusty eyes, nose, ears or feet

Influenza; coughing, sneezing. Low mortality, moves through quickly

Injuries

Bite wounds; abscess, bleeding, drainage(neck, feet, tail)

Lacerations

Obstructions in mouth; bones, wood pieces....

Treatment protocols for specific problems(medicine, doses, schedule)

Individual animal treatment protocols (will develop later)

Herd treatment protocols (will develop later)

Body score (1, very thin to 5, obese) for “adult” males

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- * Birds;
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- * Rodents
 - rodenticides
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 - cats; vaccinated, fleas control, ringworm free

Extreme weather conditions

- * cold, blowing rain/snow;
 - adequate bedding available
 - covering(plastic) for sides of conventional sheds
- * hot, humid weather
 - misters

- water bowls
- fans
- water hoses
- sprinklers on roofs

Euthanasia

- sick and/or injured animals
- pelting
- * Individual animal chamber (Co2, CO)
 - PVC tube, regulator, compressed gas bottle

- group chamber(CO compressed gas)
- regular chamber maintenance, gas bottle security
- gas tight at operating pressures, step-down regulator
- operating procedure clearing appearing on chamber
- Safety protocols in place and operator training preformed

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- * daily treatments are recorded
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 - all breeders after pelting using the IAT or QElisa; selecting the best
 - old females that produced very well are kept
 - all breeders are tested in early to mid-February.

Any mink that escape their cages and are found roaming the farm are captured and euthanized for pelting.

Pelting carcasses need to be kept confined and covered until disposal.

- composting
- burial

- rendering (only previously cleaned and sanitized dumpster dedicated to the farm for the season.)

Lactation:

May 20th thru May 31st ; 1-2/ 10,000
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PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
ORDER OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

Order in Council No. 13


, Approved and Ordered January 16, 2015

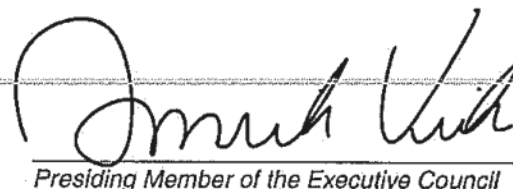

Lieutenant Governor

Executive Council Chambers, Victoria

On the recommendation of the undersigned, the Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, orders that

- (a) *the Fur Farm Regulation, B.C. Reg. 310/59, and the Licence Fee Regulation, B.C. Reg. 12/90, are repealed,*
- (b) *the attached Fur Farm Regulation is made,*
- (c) *section 1 of the Veterinary Drug and Medicated Feed Regulation, B.C. Reg. 47/82, is amended in paragraph (b) of the definition of "production animal" by striking out "Fur Farm Act," and substituting "Fur Farm Regulation, B.C. Reg. XX/2015,"*
- (d) *section 8 (g) of the Designation and Exemption Regulation, B.C. Reg. 168/90, is amended by striking out "Fur Farm Act," and substituting "Fur Farm Regulation, B.C. Reg. XX/2015;"*
- (e) *section 2.09 (4) (b) of the Wildlife Act Commercial Activities Regulation, B.C. Reg. 338/82, is amended by striking out "Fur Farm Act," and substituting "Fur Farm Regulation, B.C. Reg. XX/2015," and*
- (f) *section 10.01 of the Wildlife Act General Regulation, B.C. Reg. 340/82, is amended*
 - (i) *in subsection (1) by striking out "Fur Farm Act" and substituting "Fur Farm Regulation, B.C. Reg. XX/2015," and*
 - (ii) *in subsection (2) by striking out "Fur Farm Act" and substituting "Fur Farm Regulation".*


Minister of Agriculture


Presiding Member of the Executive Council

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: *Animal Health Act*, S.B.C. 2014, c. 16, ss. 93 (1) (d), 95, 100 (3) and (6) and 101 (7);
Veterinary Drugs Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 363, s. 71 (2) (a);
Wildlife Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 488, s. 108 (2) (h), (k) and (n)

Other: OICs 2455/59, 87/90, 292/82, 758/90, 1489/82, 1491/82

December 1, 2014

R/259/2014/3

FUR FARM REGULATION

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PART 1 - DEFINITIONS

Definitions

- 1 In this regulation:

“Act” means the *Animal Health Act*;

“fur bearing animal” means a chinchilla, fisher, fox, marten, mink or nutria;

“fur farm” means a place where 2 or more fur bearing animals are kept in captivity with the intention of breeding the animals, or producing pelts, for commercial purposes;

“fur farming” means engaging in the operation of a fur farm;

“health management plan” means a health management plan as described in section 7;

“licensed fur farmer” means a holder of a licence to operate a fur farm;

“pen” means a pen used for the accommodation of fur bearing animals on a fur farm.

PART 2 – LICENSING

Fur farming is regulated activity that must be licensed

- 2 (1) Fur farming is prescribed as a regulated activity for the purposes of the Act.
- (2) A person must not engage in fur farming unless the person
 - (a) is a licensed fur farmer, or
 - (b) is an employee, within the meaning of section 10 of the Act, of a licensed fur farmer.
- (3) Except as authorized under the *Wildlife Act*, a person must not possess live fur bearing animals unless the person is a person described in subsection (2).

How to apply for licence

- 3 (1) For the purposes of section 11 (1) of the Act, an applicant for a licence, including an applicant to renew a licence, must include with the application a fee as follows:
 - (a) \$12, if no more than 25 fur bearing animals are intended to be kept on the fur farm;
 - (b) \$24, in any other case.
- (2) An applicant must apply for a new licence if any of the following apply:
 - (a) the application is in respect of a proposed fur farm that has not yet been constructed;
 - (b) the application is in respect of a fur farm that has previously been the subject of a licence, but the applicant intends to enlarge or otherwise make significant changes to structures on the fur farm;
 - (c) the application is in respect of a fur farm that has previously been the subject of a licence, but the licence was not renewed before its expiry.
- (3) In addition to any other information required by the chief veterinarian, an applicant for a new licence must include with the application the following:
 - (a) if subsection (2) (a) or (b) applies, plans relevant to the construction of the fur farm, including accommodation, isolation and euthanasia facilities;
 - (b) a copy of the health management plan;
 - (c) a statement of the number and species of fur bearing animals intended to be kept on the fur farm, divided according to sex;
 - (d) a written statement from the council of the municipality or the board of the regional district in which the proposed fur farm is to be located indicating that the proposed fur farm complies with all relevant local government land use regulations.
- (4) In addition to any other information required by the chief veterinarian, an applicant to renew a licence must include with the application a statement of the number and species of fur bearing animals intended to be kept on the fur farm, divided according to sex.

Issuance of licence

- 4 (1) If the chief veterinarian issues a licence under section 11 (2) (d) or (e) of the Act, the chief veterinarian may include, without limiting those paragraphs, the following as conditions of the licence:
- (a) the species of fur bearing animals that may be kept on the fur farm;
 - (b) the maximum number of fur bearing animals that may be kept on the fur farm;
 - (c) that the health management plan
 - (i) submitted under section 3 (3) (b) [*how to apply for licence*], with any modifications required by the chief veterinarian, is the health management plan that must be implemented under section 7 [*health management plan*], or
 - (ii) most recently in place under section 7, with any modifications required by the chief veterinarian, must continue to be implemented under that section.
- (2) The chief veterinarian must not issue a licence permitting more than one species of fur bearing animals to be kept on a fur farm.
- (3) A licensed fur farmer must not enlarge or otherwise make significant changes to structures on the fur farm unless the licensed fur farmer first applies for, and is issued, a new licence.

Notice of suspension or cancellation

- 5 The chief veterinarian may provide notice under section 14 (3) (a) of the Act of the intention to suspend or cancel a licence in the same manner as an order may be served under section 3 (1) of the Enforcement Regulation, B.C. Reg. XX/2015, and section 3 (2) to (4) of that regulation applies.

Expiry of licence

- 6 (1) A fur farm licence expires on
- (a) March 31 of the year immediately following the year in which the licence was issued, unless renewed before that date, or
 - (b) an earlier date, if any, set by the chief veterinarian under section 11 (2) (d) or (e) of the Act.
- (2) If a new licence is issued for the purposes of section 4 (3) [*issuance of licence*], the existing licence expires on the date the new licence is issued.

PART 3 – HEALTH OF FUR BEARING ANIMALS

Health management plan

- 7 (1) A licensed fur farmer must
- (a) establish a health management plan in accordance with subsection (2) for the fur bearing animals kept on the fur farm, and
 - (b) ensure that all operators on the fur farm implement all protocols and procedures contained in the plan.

- (2) A health management plan must include the following:
 - (a) the name and contact information of the veterinarian or other person who will be advising on the health of fur bearing animals kept on the fur farm;
 - (b) a description of the procedures to be used to identify individual fur bearing animals kept on the fur farm, and the type of identification to be used;
 - (c) vaccination and treatment protocols;
 - (d) a description of the procedures to be used to track mortality rates;
 - (e) a description of the procedures to be used to isolate and segregate any fur bearing animal on the fur farm showing signs of illness;
 - (f) the euthanasia protocols established under section 10 (1) *[death of animals]*.
- (3) A licensed fur farmer must not change a health management plan except with the prior written approval of the chief veterinarian.

General health

- 8 (1) For the purposes of section 5 (2) (e) of the Act, a licensed fur farmer must ensure that each fur bearing animal on the fur farm is
 - (a) kept clean and free of parasites,
 - (b) vaccinated in accordance with the vaccination protocols set out in the health management plan, and
 - (c) observed daily
 - (i) to determine the animal's general health and condition, and
 - (ii) to monitor any significant changes in the animal's general health and condition.
- (2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that records are kept in respect of each fur bearing animal on the fur farm, detailing all
 - (a) vaccinations, and
 - (b) observations made under subsection (1) (c).

Breeding of animals

- 9 A licensed fur farmer must ensure that records are kept detailing the number of fur bearing animals born on the fur farm, divided according to sex.

Death of animals

- 10 (1) A licensed fur farmer must establish protocols for euthanizing fur bearing animals kept on the fur farm.
- (2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that
 - (a) fur bearing animals kept on the fur farm are euthanized only in accordance with the protocols established under subsection (1), and
 - (b) records are kept detailing the number of fur bearing animals on the fur farm that die of any cause.

Records made under this Part

- 11 A licensed fur farmer must ensure that all records made under this Part are kept together with the licensed fur farmer's health management plan
- (a) in the form and manner required by the chief veterinarian, and
 - (b) for a period of at least 10 years.

PART 4 – OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Food and water

- 12 (1) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that
- (a) each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to a sufficient supply of nutritious food,
 - (b) juvenile fur bearing animals are able to easily access food, if any, located on the lid of a nest box,
 - (c) each fur bearing animal on the fur farm has access to clean, palatable water, and
 - (d) waste feed is removed before fresh food is provided to fur bearing animals on the fur farm.
- (2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that
- (a) food for fur bearing animals on the fur farm is stored at temperatures and in a manner that will prevent deterioration, and
 - (b) equipment used to prepare and deliver food is cleaned and sanitized daily.
- (3) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that fur bearing animals on the fur farm are not fed, or provided as food, any part of the carcass of another fur bearing animal.

Structures generally

- 13 (1) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that structures on the fur farm in the vicinity of a pen are constructed in a manner that allows air to flow freely in and around the pen.
- (2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that sheds containing pens
- (a) provide adequate protection of the fur bearing animals within from extreme weather, and
 - (b) are sufficiently lighted, and provide sufficient space and access, for operators on the fur farm to observe and care for the fur bearing animals within.
- (3) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that fur bearing animals have access to sufficient hours of continuous daylight to meet the physical development needs of their species.

Pens

- 14 (1) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that all pens
- (a) are of sufficient size to accommodate, comfortably at the same time, all fur bearing animals the pen is intended to hold,

- (b) are constructed in a manner so as to be safe and clean for the fur bearing animals the pen is intended to hold,
 - (c) are located in such a way as to ensure proper drainage when pens are washed, and
 - (d) are fenced securely in a manner that
 - (i) prevents the escape of fur bearing animals from the pen, and
 - (ii) protects the fur bearing animals in the pen from other animals.
- (2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that all pens holding more than one fur bearing animal have either
- (a) a hammock, shelf or platform, or
 - (b) a separate nest box.

Nest boxes

- 15 A licensed fur farmer must ensure that all nest boxes
- (a) are of sufficient size to accommodate, comfortably at the same time, all fur bearing animals in the pen,
 - (b) are constructed in a manner so as to be clean, dry and free of drafts,
 - (c) hold clean, dry bedding, and
 - (d) allow for nesting behaviour in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

Escaped animals

- 16 For the purposes of section 76 (2) and (3) of the *Wildlife Act*,
- (a) a fur bearing animal as defined in this regulation that is owned by a licensed fur farmer is a fur farm animal as referred to in that section, and
 - (b) the prescribed period during which an owner retains ownership of an escaped fur farm animal is 30 days, beginning on the day of the escape.

Equipment

- 17 (1) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that all operators engaged in fur farming on the fur farm are sufficiently equipped for the purpose of meeting the requirements of this regulation.
- (2) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that operators on the fur farm have access to water sufficient for cleaning and other farm-related activities.

Transactions

- 18 (1) A licensed fur farmer must ensure that records are kept in accordance with subsection (2) in respect of each transaction involving either or both of the following:
- (a) the acquisition, by any means, of live fur bearing animals by the licensed fur farmer;
 - (b) the disposition, by any means, of live fur bearing animals or pelts by the licensed fur farmer.
- (2) The records referred to in subsection (1) must show

- (a) the date of the transaction,
 - (b) the number, sex and species of animals involved,
 - (c) the name and contact information of the person from whom the licensed fur farmer acquired live fur bearing animals, and
 - (d) the name and contact information of the person to whom the licensed fur farmer disposed of live fur bearing animals or pelts.
- (3) The records referred to in subsection (1) must be kept
- (a) in the form and manner required by the chief veterinarian, and
 - (b) for a period of at least 10 years.

PART 5 – OFFENCES

Offences

- 19 A person who contravenes any of the following provisions commits an offence:
- (a) section 2 (2) *[engaging in fur farming without a licence]*;
 - (b) section 4 (3) *[change to fur farm without a new licence]*;
 - (c) section 7 (1) (a) *[failure to establish health management plan as required]*;
 - (d) section 7 (1) (b) *[failure to comply with health management plan]*;
 - (e) section 7 (3) *[unauthorized change to health management plan]*;
 - (f) section 8 (1) *[failure to ensure general health as required]*;
 - (g) section 8 (2), 9, 10 (2) (b), 11 or 18 *[failure to keep records as required]*;
 - (h) section 10 (2) (a) *[failure to comply with euthanasia protocols]*;
 - (i) section 12 (1) or (2) *[failure to provide food or water as required]*;
 - (j) section 12 (3) *[feeding carcass of fur bearing animal]*;
 - (k) section 13, 14 or 15 *[failure to accommodate animals as required]*.

MINK FARMS AND ANIMAL WELFARE**RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:**

- In July of 2014 the BCSPCA, following the receipt of an 'under-cover video' initiated an investigation of two mink farms in the Fraser Valley.
- The Chief Veterinarian of the province accompanied the BCSPCA and facilitated the on farm investigations, then worked to insure that the recommendations of the BCSPCA were complied with.
- No charges came out of the investigation
- The Province of British Columbia recently revised the regulations governing the licensing of mink farms in the province with the new Fur Farm Regulation under the new Animal Health Act. These came into force on January 16th 2015
- The new regulation requires a written animal health plan, approved by the Chief Veterinarian to be in place on each farm. That plan must cover treatment protocols, euthanasia protocol, and record keeping of treatments and deaths on the farm.
- The new regulation also has standards for pens and enhancements of pens that align with the National Code of Practice for Fur Farming.
- The Ministry is working with industry to bring these changes into effect quickly and inspections will be carried out to confirm that they are in place.

BACKGROUND:

- In July 2014, unknown persons gained access at night to two mink farms in the Fraser Valley: Both farms are in Abbotsford in the same block and have adjoining property away from access roads.
- Photos and videos of mink on both farms were taken at night and through a lawyer, were presented to the BCSPCA to substantiate a charge of animal cruelty against both farms. An investigation was initiated by the BCSPCA with on farm visits scheduled for August 14, 2014 and August 15, 2014.
- Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinary Officer for the Province, accompanied the BCSPCA to both sites, introduced the investigators and facilitated access without having to resort to a warrant. She remained and observed the investigation, which included observation of every animal on each site
- The practice of fur farming as a regulated activity; a person must not possess a live fur bearing animal unless they are licensed.
- The mink industry has been in place in BC for a very long time and has been regulated under the current Fur Farm Act since 1996. The regulation of this industry will move to a new Fur Farm Regulation under the new Animal Health Act when that Act is brought into force.
- Currently, 18 farms are licensed with capacity for approximately 22,000 breeding males and 84,000 breeding females. Cages to accommodate litters of an average of 6 kits per breeding female are expected to be on the premise.
- Farms are predominantly in the Fraser Valley (close to a food source of waste fish products)
- Farmed mink play an important role in the agricultural chain, consuming large quantities of by-products from the production of human food. In BC, that is primarily waste from salmon, but also discarded eggs, spent hens and other waste products are consumed by mink.
- Animal Welfare concerns about Fur Farming have been raised nationally.
- BC Ministry of Agriculture took advantage of the opportunity to address these issues within the new Fur Farming Regulations under the new Animal Health Act brought into force January 16, 2015.
- Several requirements of the the new regulation are aligned with the National Code of Practice for Fur Farming including the requirements on pen enhancements, having a written Animal Health Plan that includes a euthanasia plan and a treatment plan in place that has been approved by the Chief Veterinary Officer of the province, and maintaining records on treatments and mortalities. The Code is referred to in policy when discussing issues with license holders or new applicants and on the inspection form.
- Government has reached out to the mink industry to support them in making positive changes to benefit the welfare of mink. A meeting supported by the provincial and national industry will be held February 17th to share the new expanded expectations introduced by the new regulation.
- Inspections on mink farms are carried out based on complaints and licensing applications. It is planned to carry out inspections of every licensed mink farm to ensure the new regulation is being met over the next year (as time and resources allow).

CROSS JURISDICTIONAL COMPARISON:

- Fur Farming is not a regulated activity in every province. Fur farms are not licensed in the province of Quebec.
- British Columbia has a relatively small mink farming community with only 20 licensed farms compared to Nova Scotia with 140 licensed mink farm operations.

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE / REVENUE IMPLICATION (IF APPLICABLE):

- Less than 0.1 FTE supports Fur Farming in the province.
- Annual license fees for a fur farm are \$12 a year for less than 25 animals kept, and \$24 a year for expected numbers above 25 animals.

Approved by:	Prepared by:	Alternate Contact:
ADM: James Mack	Name: Jane Pritchard	Name: N/A
Date approved by ADM: XXX	Branch: Plant and Animal Health Branch	Branch:
Phone:	Phone: 604-556-3013	Phone:
Cell:	Cell: 604-313-0223	Cell:

Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX

From: Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 1:20 PM
To: 'lesley@furbearerdefenders.com'
Cc: Pritchard, Jane AGRI:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Subject: 183179 Animal Welfare on British Columbia's Fur Farms

File: 0280-30

Ref: 183179

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W Broadway
Vancouver BC V5Y 1P4
VIA EMAIL: lesley@furbearerdefenders.com

Dear Ms. Fox:

Thank you for meeting with me on October 12, 2015 and for your follow up email of October 23, 2015 expressing concern for animal welfare on British Columbia's fur farms.

The BC Fur Farm Regulation under the Animal Health Act is aligned with the National Code of Practice for Mink Farming. With the new regulation in place, every mink farm licensed in BC (19) will be inspected before it is relicensed for 2016.

During our meeting, you stated that you were interested in learning more about improvements to mink farming in BC, and an invitation to a fur farm and an upcoming mink farm producers meeting was extended. When those invitations were broached with the mink industry, they steadfastly refused to support them. You indicated in an email to Jane Pritchard that there are misconceptions floating around about each other's interests, and that a meeting to chat simply about these would be beneficial. This would seem to be the most logical next step. Dr. Pritchard will email you to find a time to have this meeting.

~~Fur Farming is a licensed agricultural activity in the province of BC. The province is committed to supporting the industry carrying out this activity in a manner that aligns with the National Mink Farming Code of Practice as well as with the BC Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.~~

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Norm Letnick
Minister

pc: Derek Sturko, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture

Dr. Jane Pritchard, Director



File: 0280-30
Ref: 183179

Lesley Fox
Executive Director
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals
179 W Broadway
Vancouver BC V5Y 1P4

VIA EMAIL: lesley@furbearerdefenders.com

Dear Ms. Fox:

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During our meeting you stated that you were interested in learning more about improvements to mink farming in BC and an invitation to a fur farm and an upcoming mink farm producers meeting was extended. When these invitations were broached with the mink industry they steadfastly refused to support this.

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Fur Farming is a licensed agricultural activity in the province of BC. The province is committed to supporting the industry carry out this activity in a manner that aligns with the National Mink Farming Code of Practice and also with the BC Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Norm Letnick

Minister

pc: Derek Sturko, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture

Dr. Jane Pritchard, Director
Ministry of Agriculture



THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE
PROTECTION
of Fur-Bearing Animals

179 W. Broadway
Vancouver, BC, Canada V5Y 1P4
Telephone: 604-435-1850
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fbd@furbearerdefenders.com
furbearerdefenders.com

BC Minister of Agriculture
Honourable Norm Letnick
P.O. Box 9043
Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE		August 17, 2015
Referral #		
Refer to:		
Received:	AUG 20 2015	
MIN Response <input type="checkbox"/>	Reply Direct <input type="checkbox"/>	Info/File <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
DM Response <input type="checkbox"/>	Briefing Note <input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking Notes <input type="checkbox"/>
Re: Meeting Request		

Dear Honourable Letnick,

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers) is a non-profit organization with tens of thousands of supporters across Canada, focused in British Columbia. Our mandate is to advocate for fur-bearing animals in the wild and in confinement.

As you know, several species of fur-bearing animals can be bred/farmed for their pelts under the Fur Farm Act and the Fur Farm Regulation. Currently in British Columbia, 18 licenses were issued for mink farming in 2014, with almost all farms being located in the Fraser Valley.

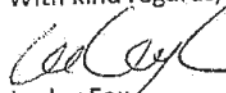
We understand that your Ministry has moved the Fur Farm Act under the new Animal Health Act. This is a step forward, but current regulations regarding animals on fur farms are not as detailed or specific as the voluntary Canadian Code of Practice for the Care of Handling of Farmed Mink.

Following your decision to adopt the voluntary codes of practice for dairy into law, we are hopeful that you will see the logic in adding other such guidelines into law for farmed mink and foxes, as well. By instituting these voluntary codes of practice as law, and ensuring that non-partisan experts from the BC SPCA are able to enter and investigate properties where wild animals are kept in confinement, British Columbia would become Canada's leader in protection of animals farmed for their fur.

This past winter, The Fur-Bearers obtained video and photographs of fur farms in BC. The footage depicted terrible suffering, cannibalism, dead animals on site, unsuitable drinking water, filthy cages, extreme overcrowding, and mink with missing limbs, tails and ears. The footage was given to the BC SPCA who responded to these animal cruelty allegations, but was sadly unable to lay charges due to inadequate legislation.

When I met with you briefly at the National Animal Welfare Conference in Richmond, hosted by the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, you mentioned you did personally witness the video footage regarding fur farming in Canada. I would appreciate a meeting with you and your senior staff to discuss these important issues and provide more information on the realities facing wild animals in confinement in British Columbia and potential solutions.

With kind regards,


Lesley Fox
Executive Director



Ministry of
Agriculture

BC Mink Farmers Meeting

Animal Health Centre, Abbotsford, BC

**October 27, 2015
Conference Room 131**

Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Welcome and introductions |
| 9:15 – 10:00 | Building a herd health program for mink: The view from Wisconsin.
Dr. Hugh Hildebrandt, Medford Veterinary Clinic |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Coffee Break |
| 10:15 – 11:00 | Enrichments for Mink – Dr. Rebecca Meagher, UBC |
| 11:15 – 12:00 | The Canadian mink industry: Traceability and the welfare certification program .
Gary Hazlewood, Executive Director CMBA |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Lunch Break |
| 1:00 – 1:30 | Update on the code of practice and mink farm inspection program.
Dr. Jane Pritchard, AHC |
| 1:30 – 2:15 | Selected topics of interest - Dr. Hugh Hildebrandt, Medford Veterinary Clinic |
| 2:15 – 2:45 | Aleutian disease virus in skunks and raccoons: A threat to domestic mink?
Dr. Ann Britton, AHC |
| 2:45 – 3:00 | Final comments |

Body Condition Score ²	Description
Score 1 Very thin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mink has an emaciated appearance with decreased muscle mass. • The animal has a thin neck and a clearly V-shaped body. • There is no body fat and the stomach is sunk in. • Shoulder and hip bones can be seen and the ribs are easily felt.
Score 2 Thin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mink has a thin neck and a V-shaped waistline. • There is no subcutaneous body fat layer. • The shoulder and hip bones and the ribs can be easily felt.
Score 3 Ideal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mink has a slender neck and a straight body shape. • There is a slight amount of subcutaneous body fat. • The shoulder and hip bones and the ribs can be easily felt.
Score 4 Heavy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mink has a thicker neck and a pear shaped body. • The ribs are difficult to feel. • The shoulder and hip bones are covered by a moderate fat layer. • An abdominal fat pad is present.
Score 5 Obese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mink has a thick neck with a slight brisket and a full body shape. • The ribs are very difficult to feel. • The shoulder and hip bones are covered by a moderate to thick fat layer. • A fat pad is present in the abdomen and the tail. • Fat deposits can be seen in the limbs and the face.

Normal(ideal) losses:

Adult females:

Winter conditioning(December thru February); 1

Breeding thru gestation(March thru mid-April); 1

Kits

May 20th thru May 31st; .05%/day

June 1st thru June 10th; .1%

June 11th thru June 20th; .05%

*

Treated Mink

* Daily written record of mink treated on individual cage card specific treatment is being used. (individual treatment protocol drugs to be used, results)

* Central record of all animals treated, with which protocol

* Employees need to be trained to recognize and treat common

Illnesses

Off feed; not eating as much feed as its neighbors

Diarrhea; runny, off colored manure

Pneumonia; coughing, sneezing, blood around nostrils and/c

Pussy lung(primarily blue mink), bloody nose, coughing

Boils/abscesses; swollen area, maybe feel fluid filled or drain

Mastitis; swollen and/or draining mammary tissue

Skin lesions; crusty eyes, nose, ears or feet

Influenza; coughing, sneezing. Low mortality, moves through quickly

Injuries

Bite wounds; abscess, bleeding, drainage(neck, feet, tail)

Lacerations

Obstructions in mouth; bones, wood pieces....

Treatment protocols for specific problems(medicine, doses, schedule)

Individual animal treatment protocols (will develop later)

Herd treatment protocols (will develop later)

Body score (1, very thin to 5, obese) for “adult” male

Winter conditioning: Starting at 4 to 5 in November; slow r

Prebreeding(mid to late February): 2

Post breeding(mid-March): 2 to 3

Gestation(mid-March to late April): starting at 3 progressing

Lactation(late April to mid June): Maintaining at 3.5

Growth rate for kits: see chart

Vaccination

United Vaccines, Inc. products. Manufactured in Madison, W
Finnie Distributing; St Marys, On;

Jeff Richardson; 519-284-2080

Canadian distribution center for the MVCRS

* Biocom-P: Mink Enteritis Virus(killed); Pseudomonas aer

* Distemink: Canine Distemper Virus(modified live)

Both products are given sub Q; 1 cc dosage

Kits can be vaccinated with Biocom-P starting at 6 weeks of age
Kits can be vaccinated with Distemink starting at 10 weeks of age
Both products can be given at the same time (starting at 10 weeks)
separate sites.

Proper storage, handling and vaccination technique need to be followed
Syringe maintenance, function, cleaning and sanitation need to be followed

Management

Biosecurity:

CFAI National Farm-Level Mink Biosecurity Standard
Biosecurity Protocols for the Operation of Mink farms in the United States

Manure: handling, removal, disposal

Reason: Sanitation, fly control, odor control, air quality and disease prevention

Manure Handling

- * Bio-secure manner, dedicated equipment
- * Manure removal
- * Routine removal when climate conditions allow.
 - Removal of manure as soon as thawing allows (decrease air quality)
 - Before kits are born (Increase air quality, increase environmental health)
 - Continually throughout the summer; this is influenced by local climate
 - spray on treatments to reduce ammonia levels (More than 100 ppm)

Disposal

- Covered composting
- Off-site spreading, disease concerns to environment (ADV)
- Covered storage, then spreading when land is available

Mortality handling

- * Mark cages by person feeding
- * Non-feeder picks up casualties with dedicated gloves and equipment
- * Casualties are either frozen for skinning later in dedicated facility or
- incineration

- burial
- composting
- (spreading with Manure is not acceptable)

Fly control

- * continual manure removal during appropriate times
- * decrease water exposure to manure and bedding
- * feed through larvacide
- * sprays, baits, adhesives
- * biologic control(wasps)

Pest control

- * Birds;
 - netting
 - shed door closures
 - deterrents(hawk decoys, artificial hawk sounds)
- * Rodents
 - rodenticides
 - regular manure and old feed removal
 - rodent proof feed storage
 - professional exterminator
 - cats; vaccinated, fleas control, ringworm free

Extreme weather conditions

- * cold, blowing rain/snow;
 - adequate bedding available
 - covering(plastic) for sides of conventional sheds
- * hot, humid weather
 - misters

water bowls

- fans
- water hoses
- sprinklers on roofs

Euthanasia

- sick and/or injured animals
- pelting
- * Individual animal chamber (Co2, CO)
 - PVC tube, regulator, compressed gas bottle

- group chamber(CO compressed gas)
- regular chamber maintenance, gas bottle security
- gas tight at operating pressures, step-down regulator
- operating procedure clearing appearing on chamber
- Safety protocols in place and operator training preformed

Disease monitoring

- * death loss is recorded daily
- * daily treatments are recorded
- * routine post mortem examinations preformed on causalities (support program being developed)
- * feed products are routinely cultured
- * water is routinely cultured
- * ADV testing on historically negative farms:
 - periodic testing of causalities with the lateral flow test
 - testing 15-20% of breeder females in the winter and all breeders with the lateral flow or CIEP test.
- * testing all females that didn't whelp.
- * ADV testing on historically positive farms
 - all breeders after pelting using the IAT or QElisa; selecting
 - old females that produced very well are kept
 - all breeders are tested in early to mid-February.

Any mink that escape their cages and are found roaming the farm are captured and euthanized for pelting.

Pelting carcasses need to be kept confined and covered until disposal.

- composting
- burial

- rendering (only previously cleaned and sanitized dumpster dedicated to the farm for the season.)

Lactation:

May 20th thru May 31st ; 1-2/ 10,000

June 1st thru June 10th ; 2-3/ 10,000

June 10th thru June 20th ; 4-6/ 10,000

June 20th thru July 20th ; 2-3 /10,000

July 20th thru August 20th ; 1-2/10,000

August 20th thru October 20th ; 0-1/10,000(very weather dependent)

June 21st thru July 20th; .025%

July 21st thru August 20th; .02%(weather dependent)

August 21st thru October 20th; .02%(weather dependent)

ds. mink need to be "marked" that they are being treated and what
cols, 1,2,3,4...., are described in the written manual; protocols describe

and results seen.

non illnesses or injuries

COMMENTS

or mouth

ing fluid

a farm

Comments

treatment schedules, expected results): (see antibiotic treatment

es and females; see chart
egression to 2 in mid-February

g to 3.5 to 4

COMMENTS

/isconsin

uginosa(bacterim); Botulism type C (toxoid)

age

f age

weeks), they cannot be combined and they must be given in two

be followed.

l to be addressed on an ongoing basis.

United States

l governmental regulation

mmonia levels)

mental sanitation, fly control)

and availability and crop rotation.(increased air quality, fly control)

l Manure)

pale

freezer or freezer area; or disposed of immediately by:

es

eder

for the lower antibody level mink.

farm need to be caught and caged in a semi-isolated area and marked

l disposal.

s should be brought onto the farm and those dumpsters should be



Ministry of
Agriculture
British
Columbia
Feb 17 2005

s.22

Protocols

WRITE DOWN WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

THEN DO WHAT YOU WRITE DOWN

Staff confusion

Modify by results

Aim for consistent results

Record Keeping

- Mortality Rate
- 1:3000 per day in furring time
- Vaccination Protocols
- Sickness Protocols

Treatment of Sick Mink

- Individual cards
- Hospital areas
- Both aimed to make sure they get treated
- Protocols for treatment-should include euthanasia

MASTITIS

- When it happens-well nursing, occasionally after weaned
- How do you tell-off feed
 - Swollen nipple
 - Hungry Kits

MASTITIS

- Outcome
- X number days not eating –euthanize
- Kits weak-farm out to another female
- Starts eating- mark as pelter –your call

MASTITIS

Staph, strep and e coli

Penicillin

Nuflor

Baytril

Mastitis

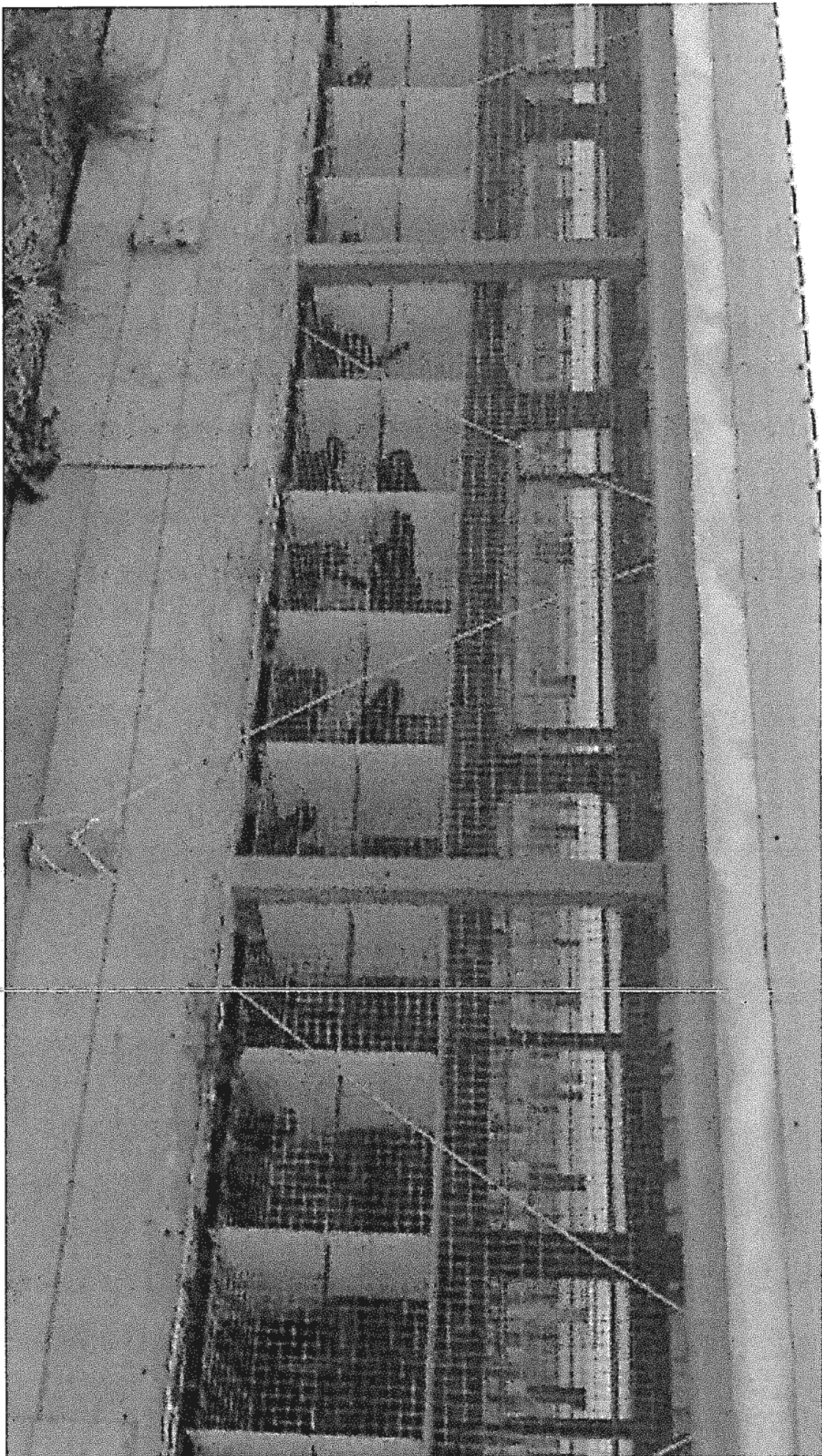
- NuFlor
- Welfare
- Ease of administering
- Small black female=0.4 ml subcutaneously
- Large black male, or brown female= 0.5 ml SQ
- Large brown male=0.6 ml subcutaneously
- One injection lasts 3 days, can repeat once

FootRot and FaceRot

- Public perception very poor
- Mink ranchers concern sometimes equally poor
- Hospital area
- Euthanasia Protocol-Eyes , Ears, Progress
- PainKillers Metacam

Cage Enhancements vs Cage Enrichments

- Enrichments are toys
- Public perception important
- Enhancements are complexity to the pen
- Drop boxes, or shelves or hammocks

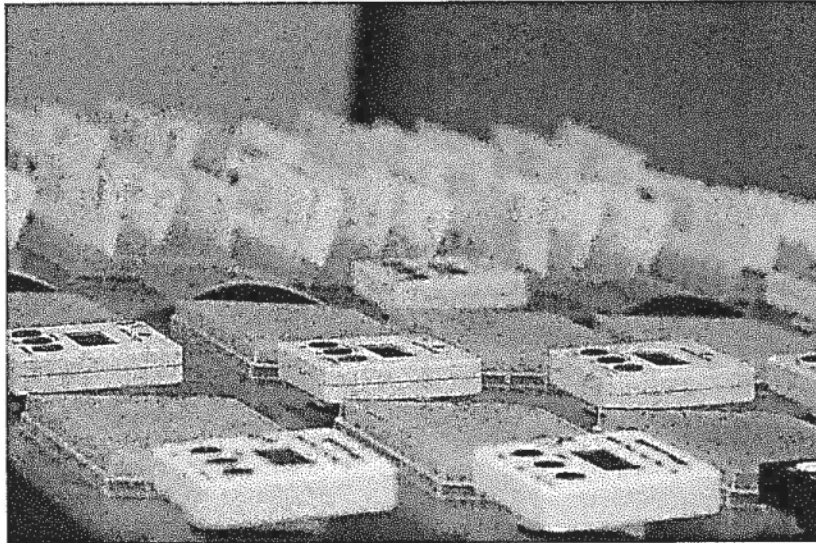


Cage Enhancements



Q Elisa

- More accurate by 20% to iodine
- Only picks up ADV, nothing else
- Adds ½ kit more per year over iodine

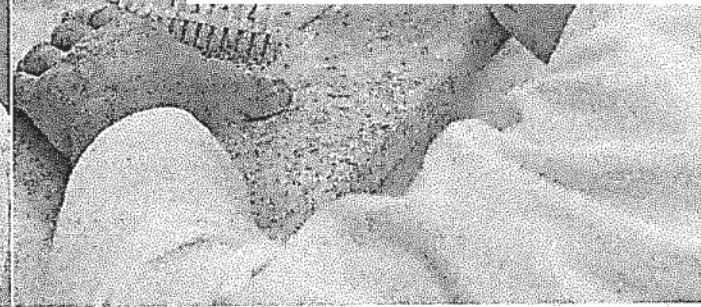
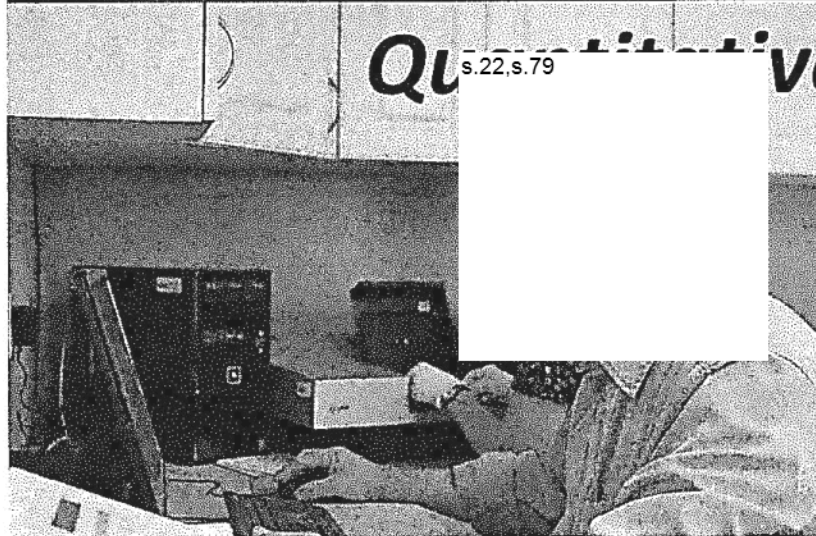


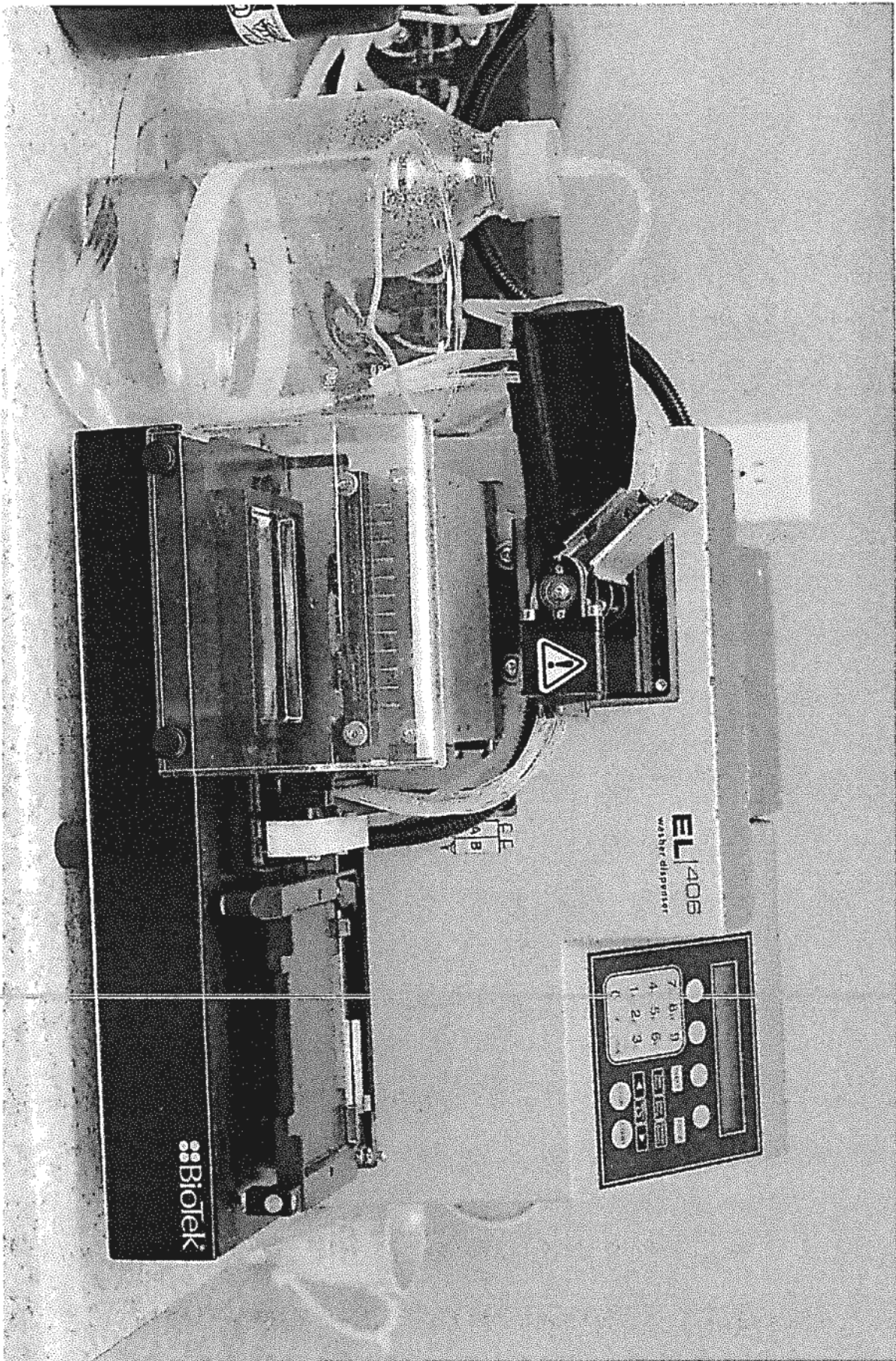
s.22,s.79

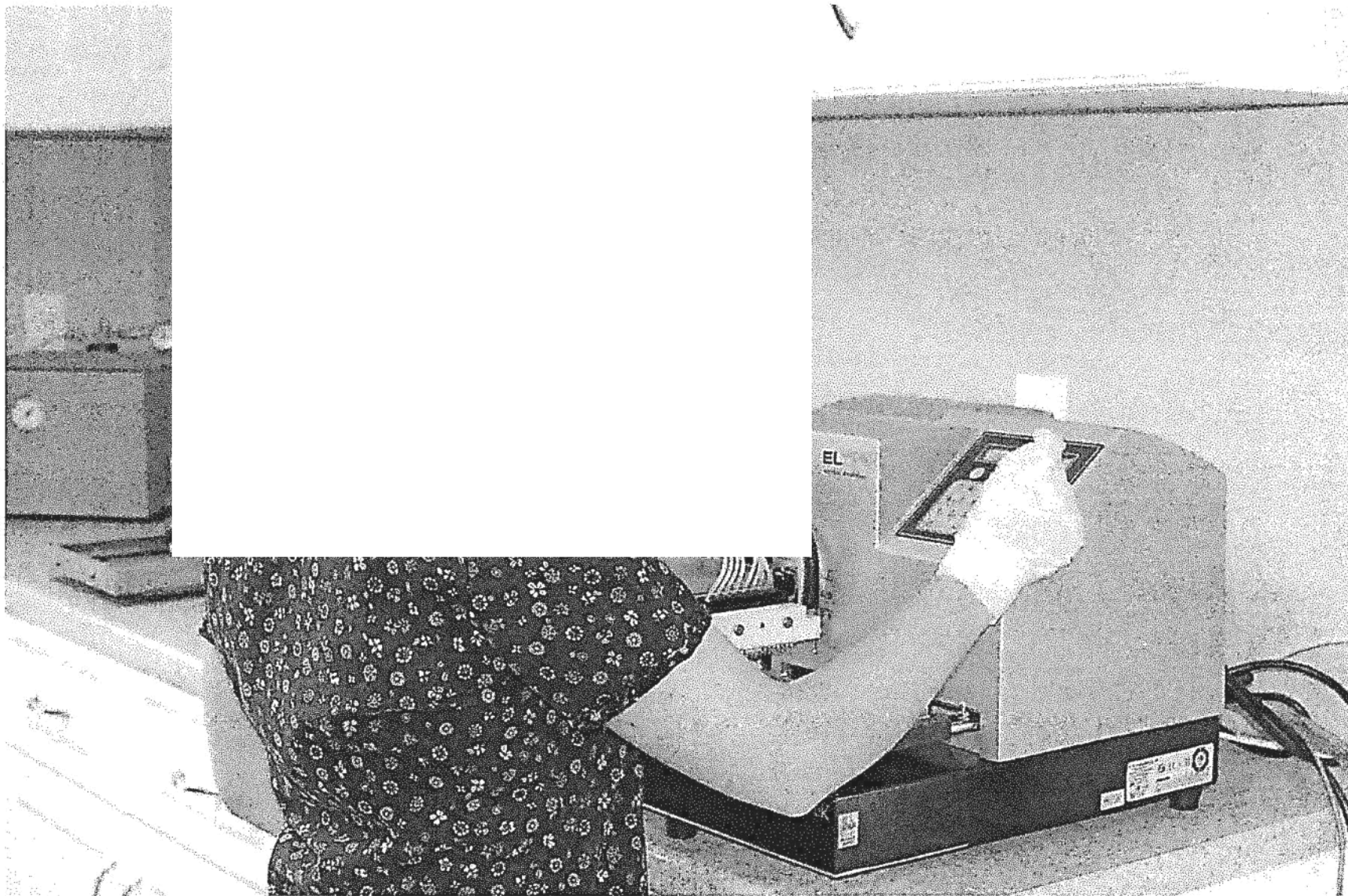


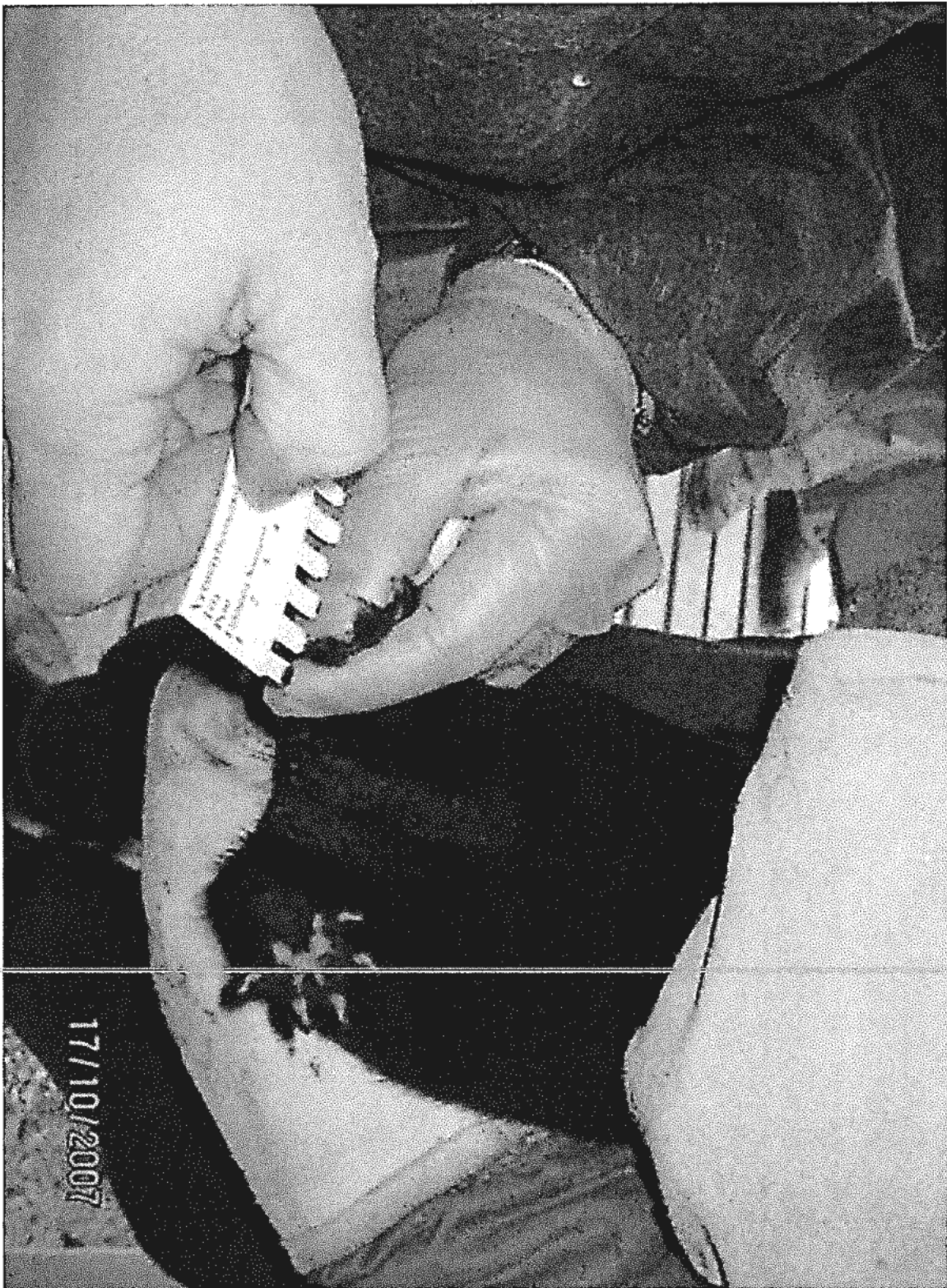
Quantitative Elisa

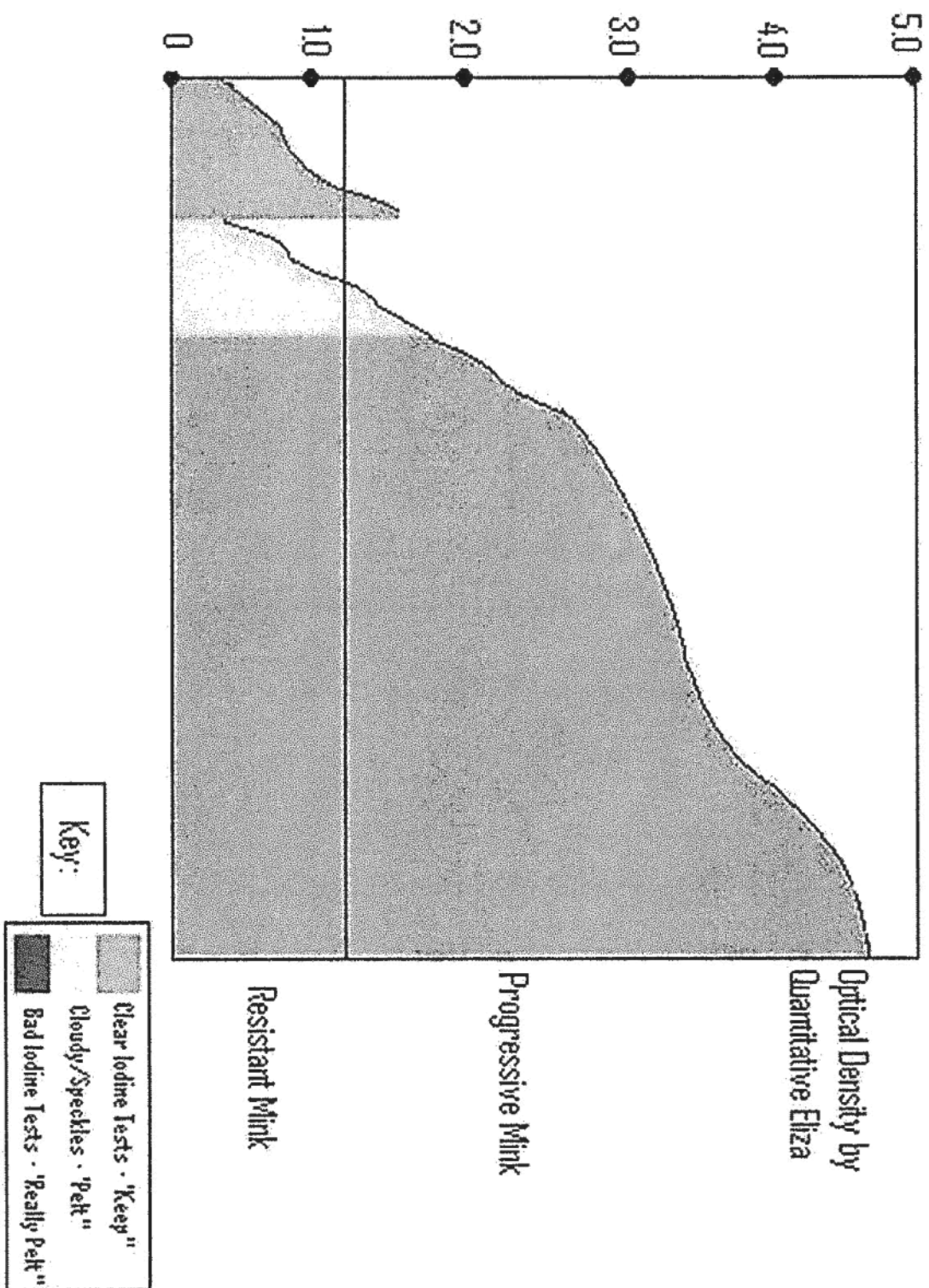
s.22,s.79











Autopsies

- Every Mortality has a story

Autopsies

On Farm, separate into lungs ,liver bowels kidneys and all the rest



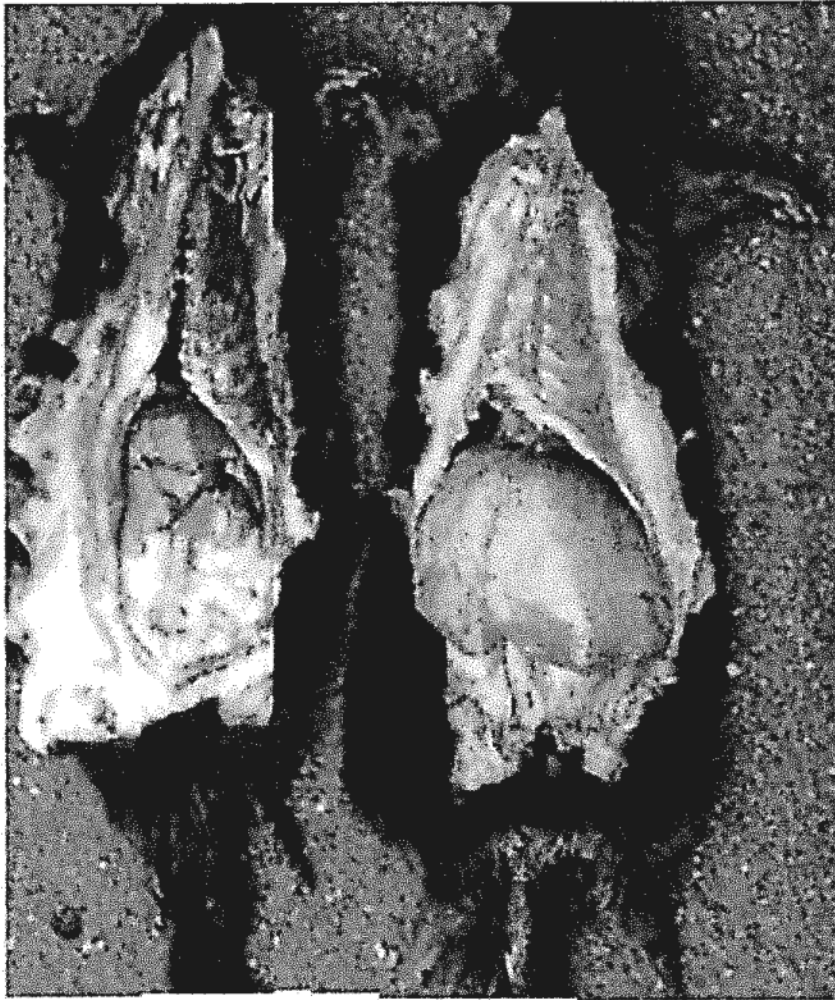
Aleutian Disease Kidney



Aleutian Disease Kidney







- Fatty Livers

Angry Bowels-Parvo Virus Enteritis



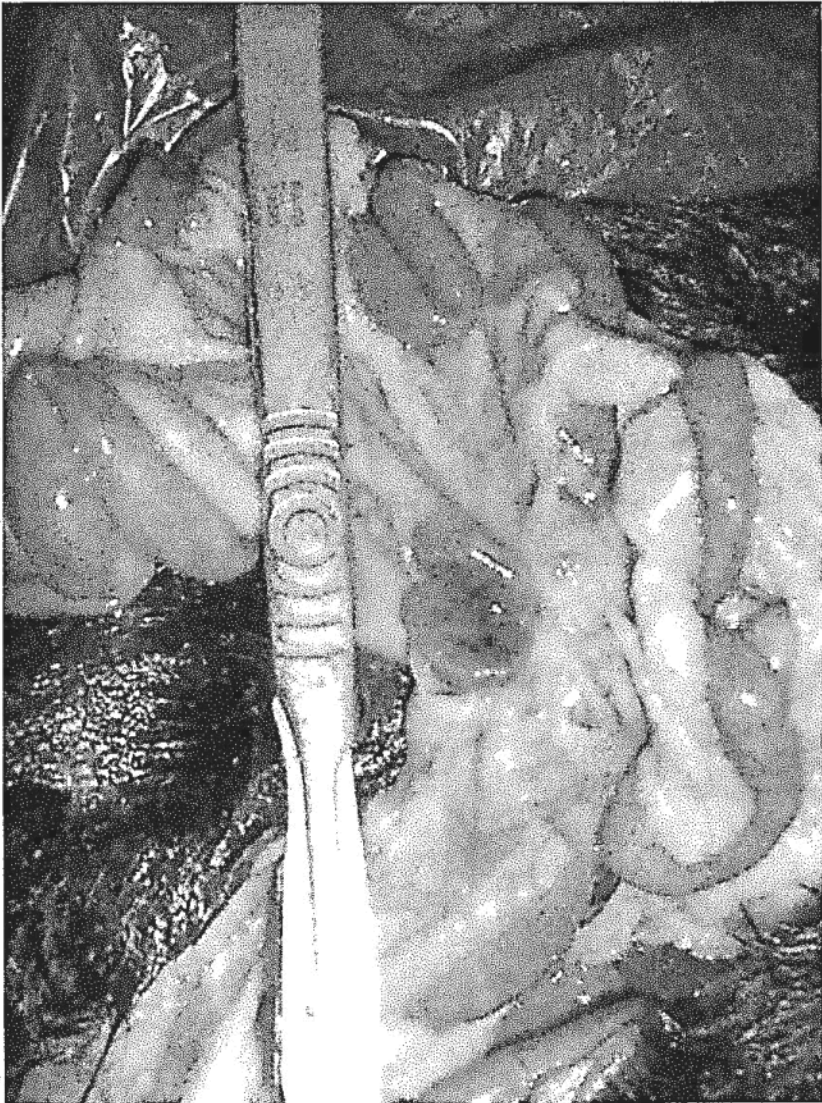
Mink Viral Enteritis



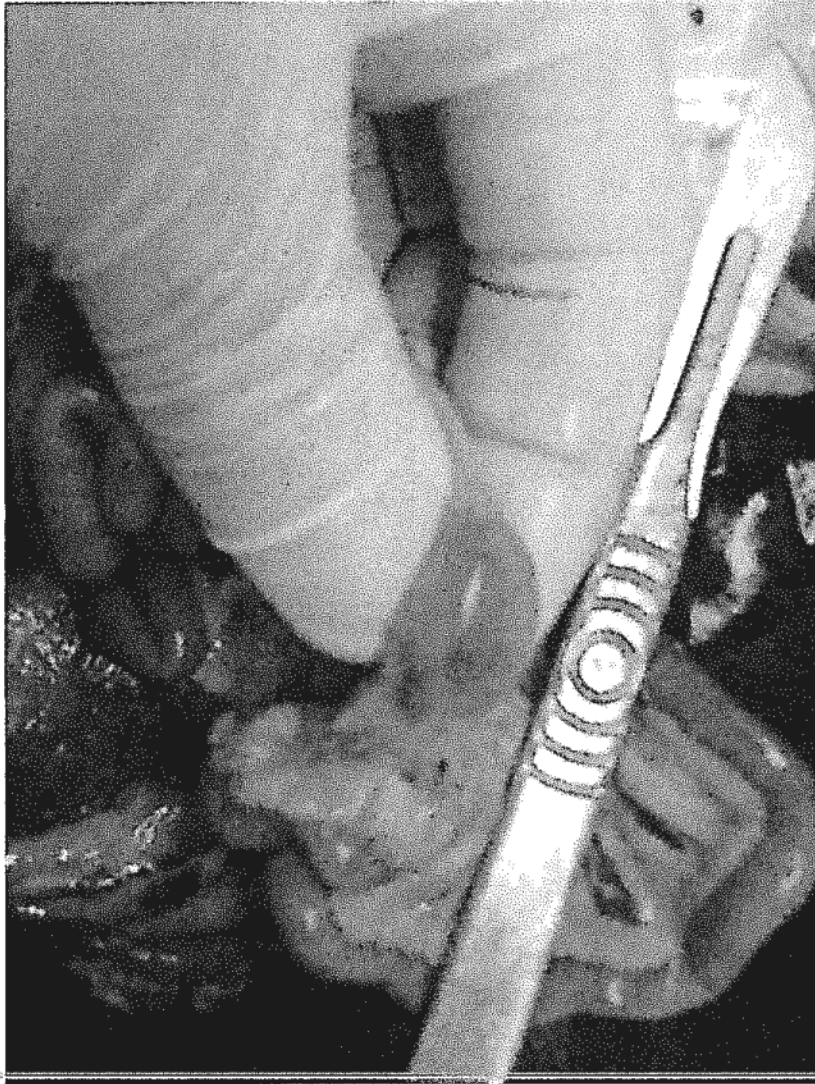
- Parvo Virus
- Do not mix with Aleutian Disease
- Big \$\$\$ loss
- Vaccinated against

A

Mesenteric Lymph Node=MVE

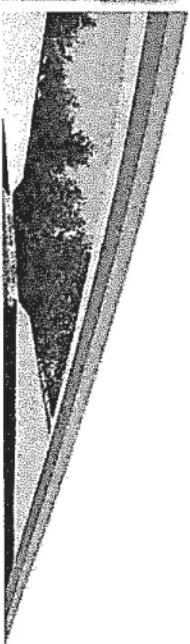
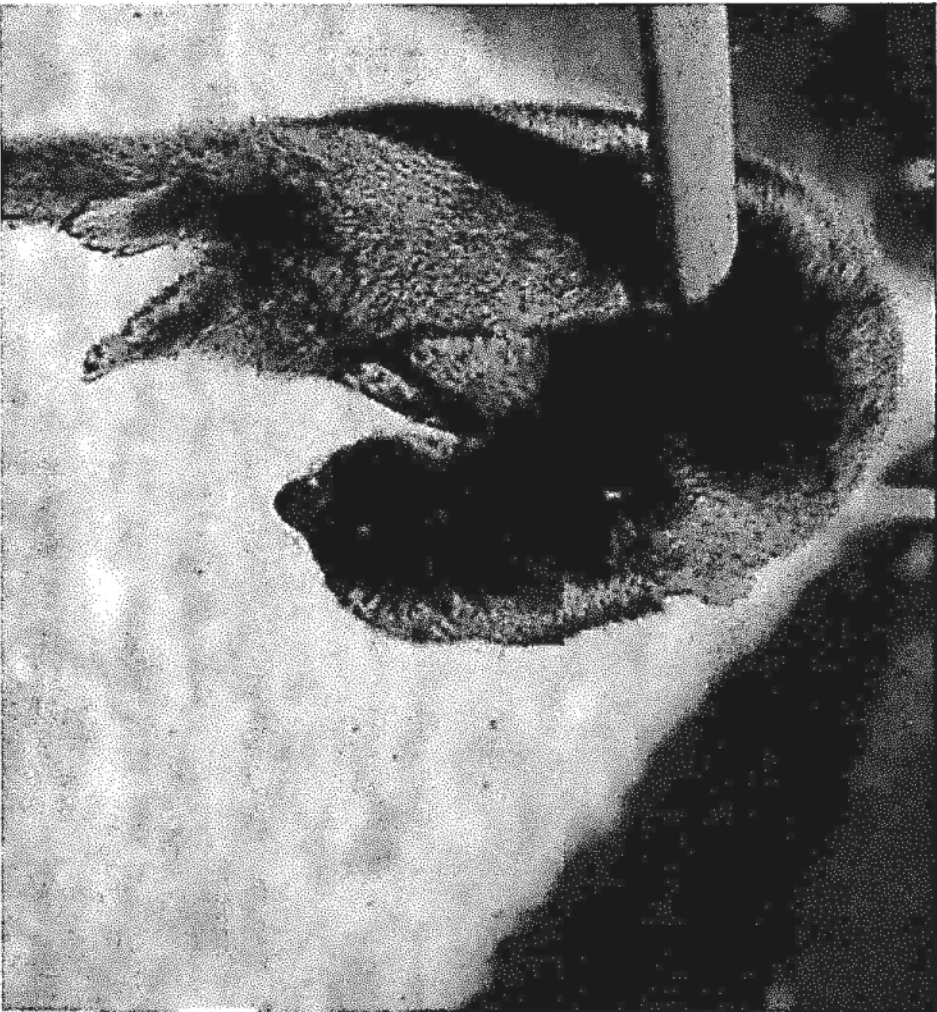


Mesenteric Lymph Node



Botulism

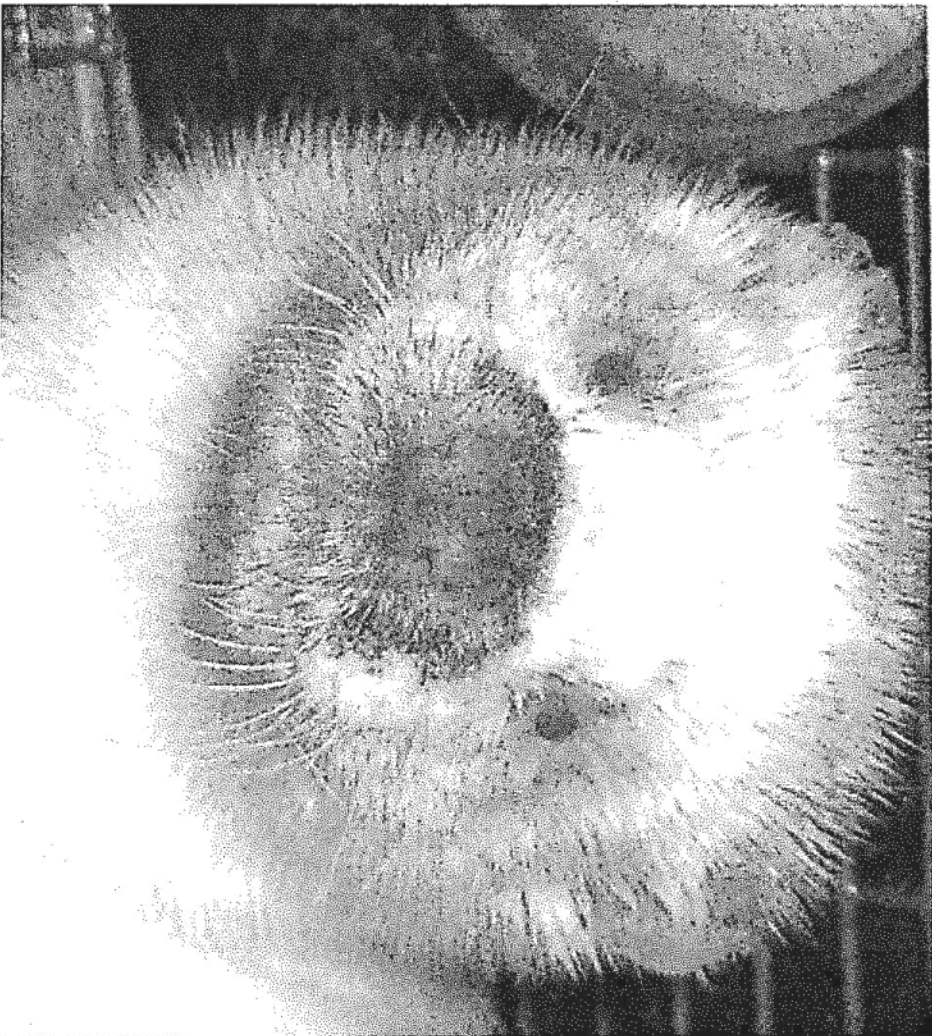
- Type 3 Toxin
- Feed systems
- Vaccinated against



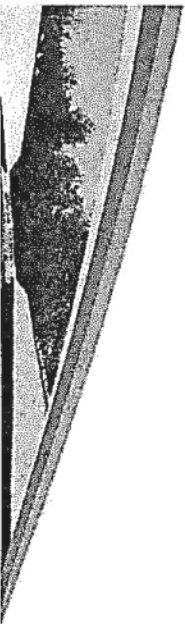


Selenium Deficiency

Distemper



- Bacterial Disease
- Carried by wildlife
- Vaccinated against
- High Biosecurity

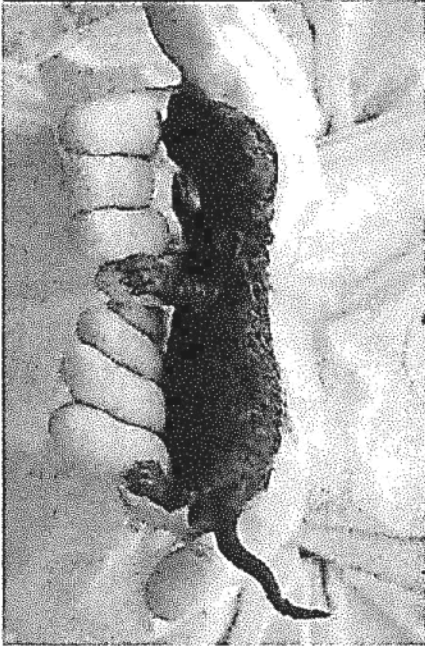
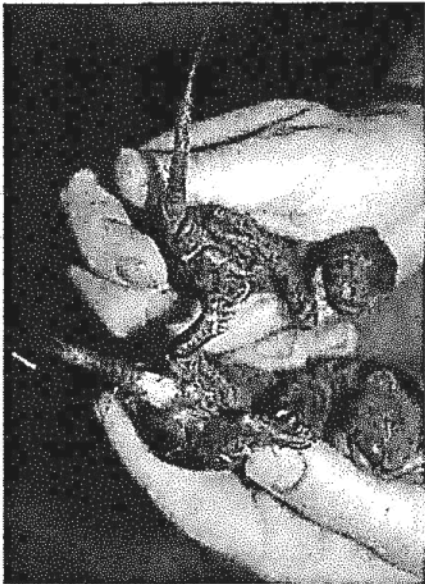


Ringworm



- Fungal Infection
- Big \$\$\$ loss
- Don't touch the Mink
- Cats, Cats, Cats.... yuk

Sticky Kits



Nursing Disease



- Management Disease
- Late in Lactation

Thank You for Your attention





Canadian Mink Industry

- Our Growth has slowed with the market drop
- 5 million pelts sold
- Approximately 225-250 ranches
- Average size of ranch sells 18,000 pelts
- Majority of mink have AD/Plasmacytosis
- ½ of the Industry is on the east coast
- Our Country has 6 time zones in it

Topics of Discussion

- 1-Liver Profiles

Case study with liver profiles

- 2-Using Mating order to control or enhance genetic gain
- 3- A new style of mink barn we are using in Canada
- 4- New handling techniques that improve animal welfare
- 5- NuFlor Useage

Liver Metabolic Profiles

All in ppm on a dry matter basis

- Phosphorus 5800-6800
- Calcium 245-310
- Lead 0.015-0.36
- Iron 886-1203
- Selenium 1.65-2.58
- Zinc 85-151
- Copper 31-45
- Sodium 4230-5495
- Manganese 3.61-4.87
- Cobalt 0.03-0.04
- Arsenic 0.14-0.45
- Molybdenum 0.73-1.05
- Magnesium 480-565
- Potassium 6200-7400

And more!!

- Cadmium <0.1
- Antimony <0.1
- Vanadium 0.2-0.4
- Chromium 0.1-1.08
- Boron <2.0
- Tin <1.0
- Barium <1.0
- Nickel <2.0

Liver Toxicity Methodology

at the Ontario Veterinary College

- The method used was developed in-house. Biological tissue is microwave/nitric acid digested and analyzed for antimony (Sb), arsenic (As), barium (Ba), beryllium (Be), boron (B), calcium (Ca), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), lead (Pb), magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), mercury (Hg), molybdenum (Mo), nickel (Ni), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), selenium (Se), sodium (Na), tin
- (Sn), thallium (Tl), vanadium (V) and zinc (Zn). The microwave digested sample is brought to volume with Nanopure water. The clear extract supernatant is further diluted by 10, to accurately fall within calibration range and reduce high level analyte concentration entering detector, and is measured by inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy (ICP-MS).

Case Study

- Kits not growing well at 10 days
- Continued until about 20 days
- Mothers not milking or eating well
- Everyone lifeless

Case Study

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- Autopsies showed pale muscle and livers
- PCV at 35 (normal 55+)

Case Study

- Kits not growing well at 10 days
- Continued until about 20 days
- Mothers not milking or eating well
- Everyone lifeless
- Autopsies showed pale muscle and livers
- PCV at 35 (normal 55+)
- LIVER IRON LEVELS 364 ppm (normal 886-1203)
- Zinc- 87 ppm (normal 85-151)
- Copper 22 ppm (normal 31-45)

Treatment for iron deficiency

- 150,000 mink on ranch
- Injected those not eating or with high kit loss....pig iron 1/10th cc IM
- Injected about 2000 litters and moms
- Added Beef Liver to diet
- Added chelated iron to diet
- Added chelated Cu/Zn/Mg to diet

Treatment for iron deficiency

- Mortality stopped within days
- Growth started within a week
- Kits started playing

Treatment for iron deficiency




























- Final crop better than any year he has had.
- Suspicious this problem was sneaking up on us
- Previous year 5000 runty kits from 150,000, this year un-noticeable number of runts, we found a year old liver sample from one of the runts in the freezer and it was 400 ppm iron (normal 886=1200)

Using Mating Order to improve herd Genetics

USING 30 YEAR OLD RESEARCH IN TODAYS INDUSTRY

Using Mating Order to improve herd Genetics

Males to Right, Females to Left Dr. Bruce Murphy, U of Montreal

DAYS																						Kits from each male %		
0	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2	6	6 1/2	7	7 1/2	8	8 1/2	9	9 1/2	10	10 1/2			
																						37	63	
																						73	27	
																						94	6	
																						10	90	
																						>10	<90	
																							43	57
																							66	34

Selection

Foot Rot/ Foot Pad Necrosis



























ADV Tolerance

To encourage a higher % of kits having a desirable trait

Day 0 & 7 or 0 & 2 1/2 most successful BUT REVERSED

Using Breeding Order to improve herd Genetics

Males to Right, Females to Left

DAYS																						Kits from each male %		
0	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2	6	6 1/2	7	7 1/2	8	8 1/2	9	9 1/2	10	10 1/2			
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																							43	57
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New Challenge

AD Tolerant ranches bringing in Jet Black AD negative males

Improve color and pelt quality











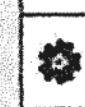


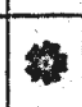



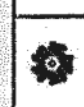








Try to minimize the loss of tolerance

25% of these males maybe tolerant

BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHICH!!!!

Using Breeding Order to improve herd Genetics

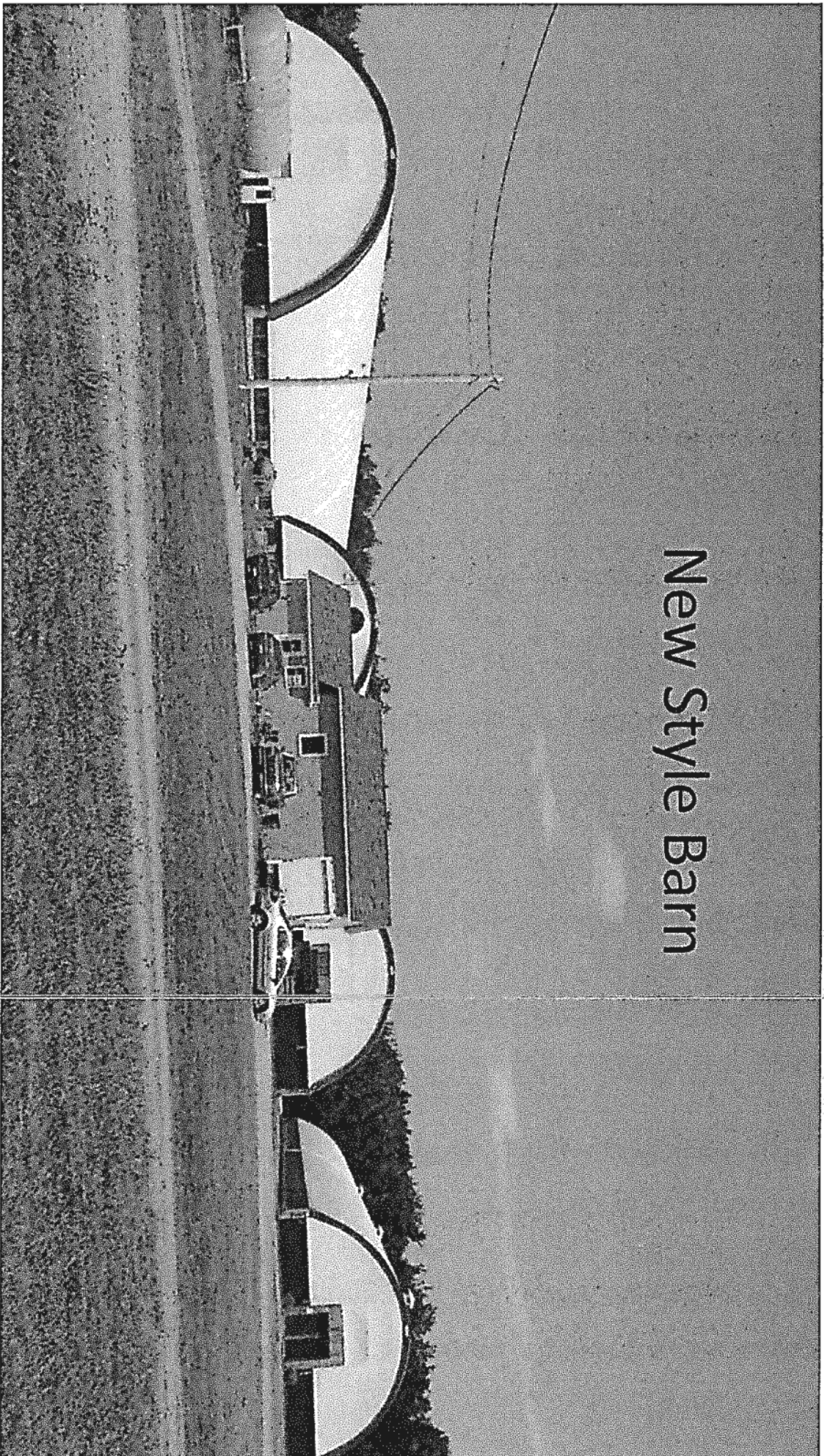
Males to Right, Females to Left

DAYS																						Kits from each male %		
0	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2	6	6 1/2	7	7 1/2	8	8 1/2	9	9 1/2	10	10 1/2			
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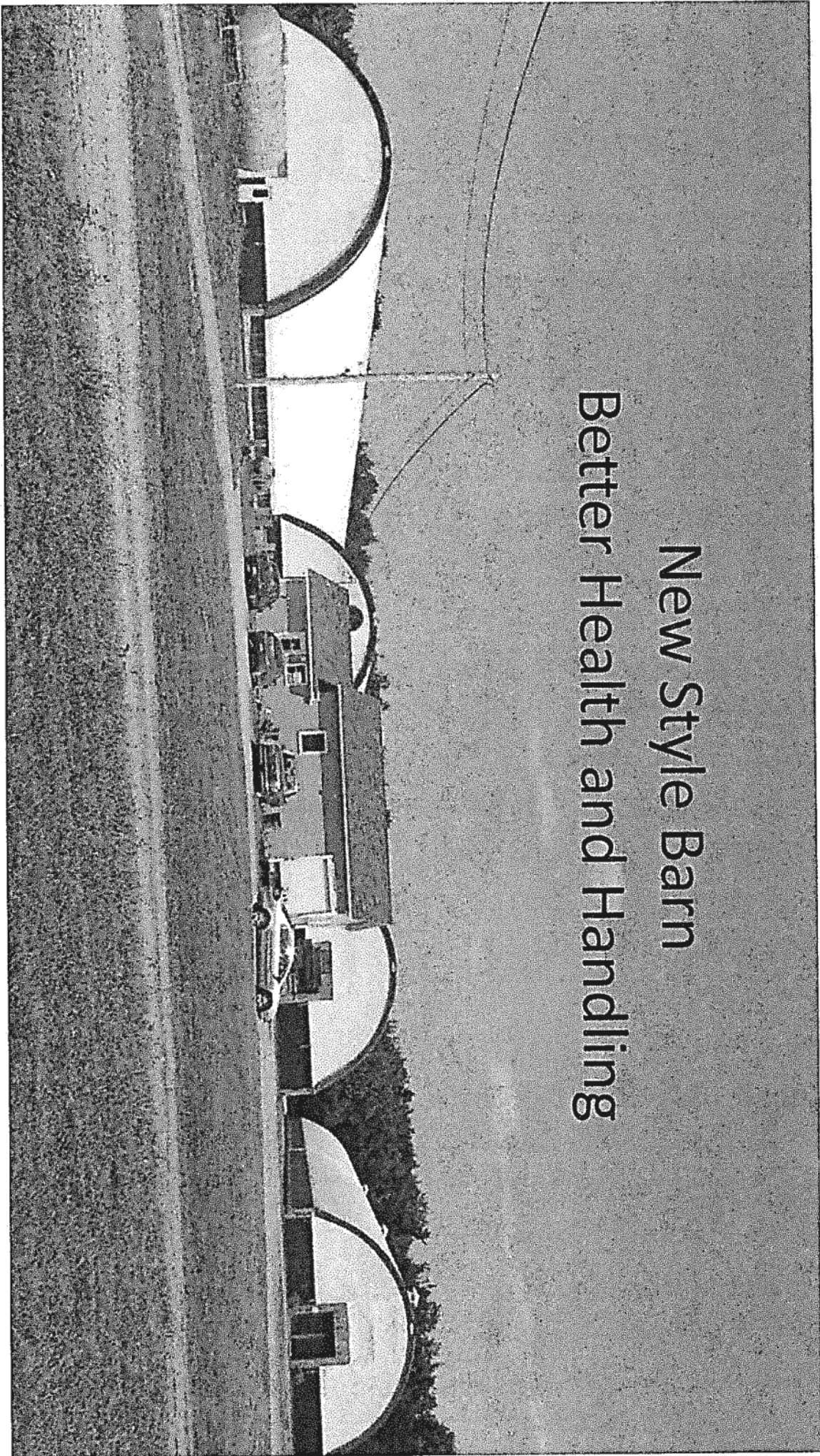
Florfenicol

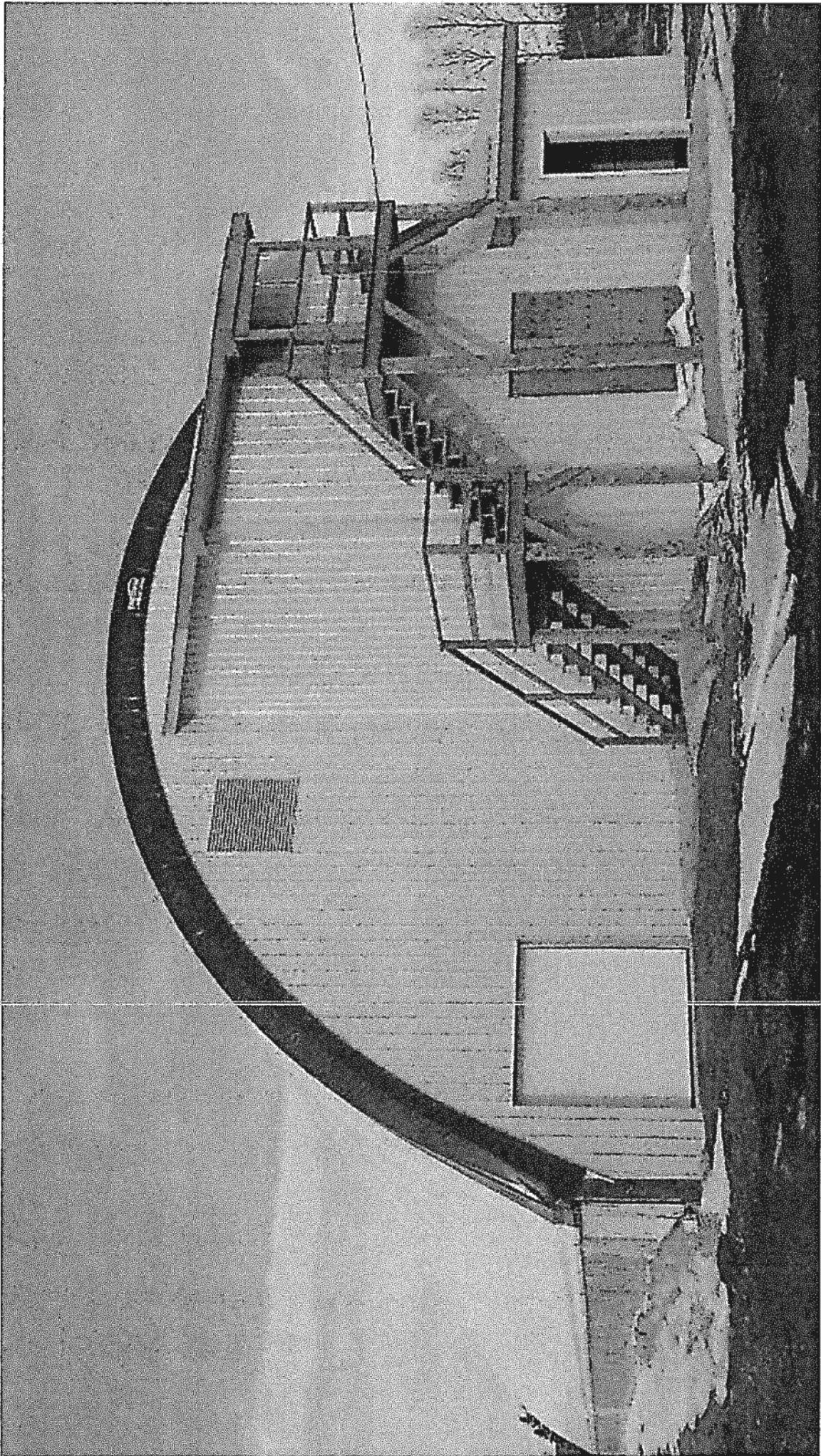
- NuFlor Most Common Name 300 mg/ml
- Aquaflo-US
- Florselect-Sweden
- Florvetol- Netherlands
- Florapharma-Norway
- Dose for small mink (up to 1.5 kg) 0.4 ml SQ every 3 days
- Dose for medium Mink 0.5 ml (1.5-3 kg) SQ every 3 days
- Dose for large mink 0.6 ml (over 3 kg)SQ every 3 days

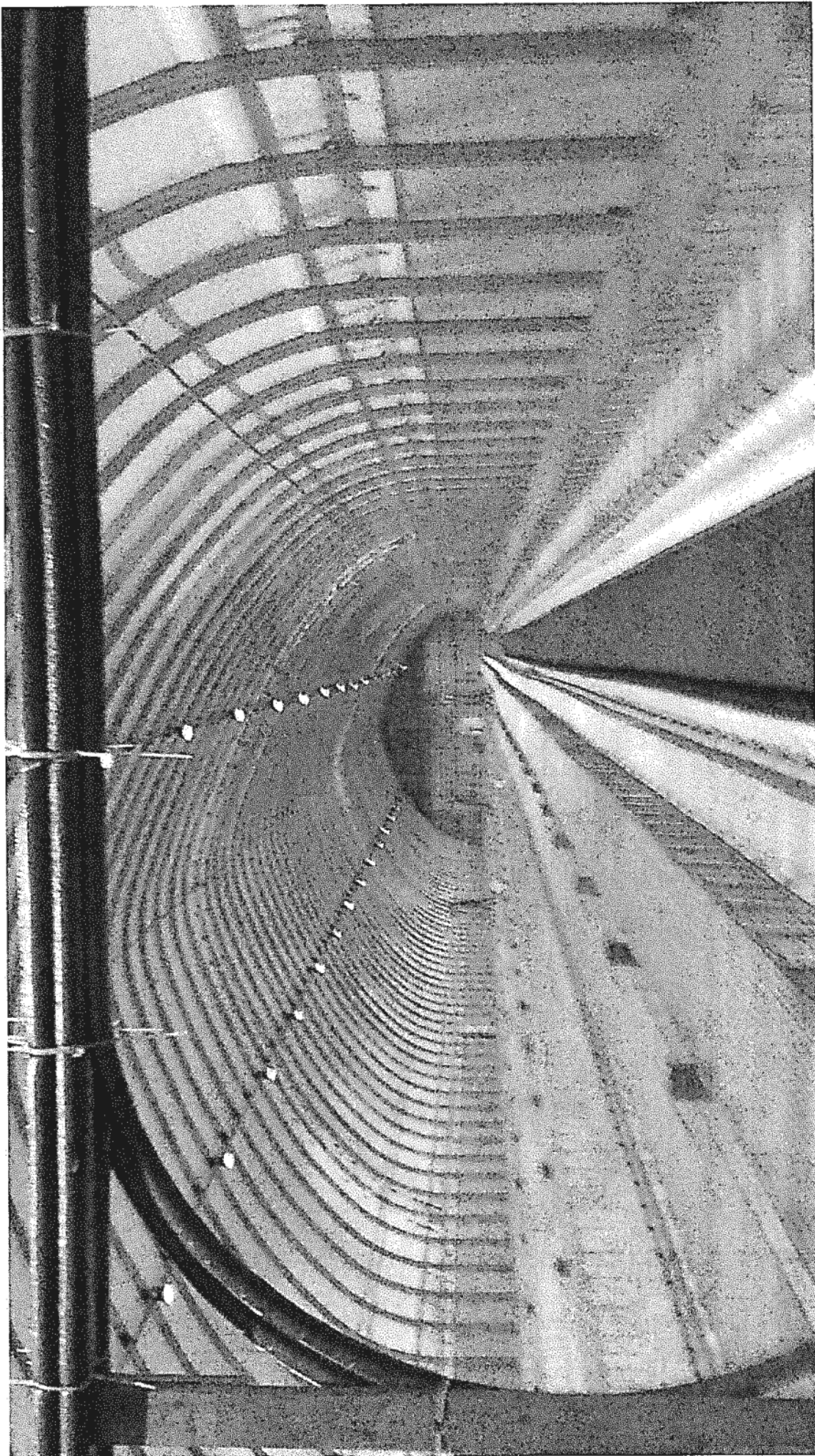
New Style Barn

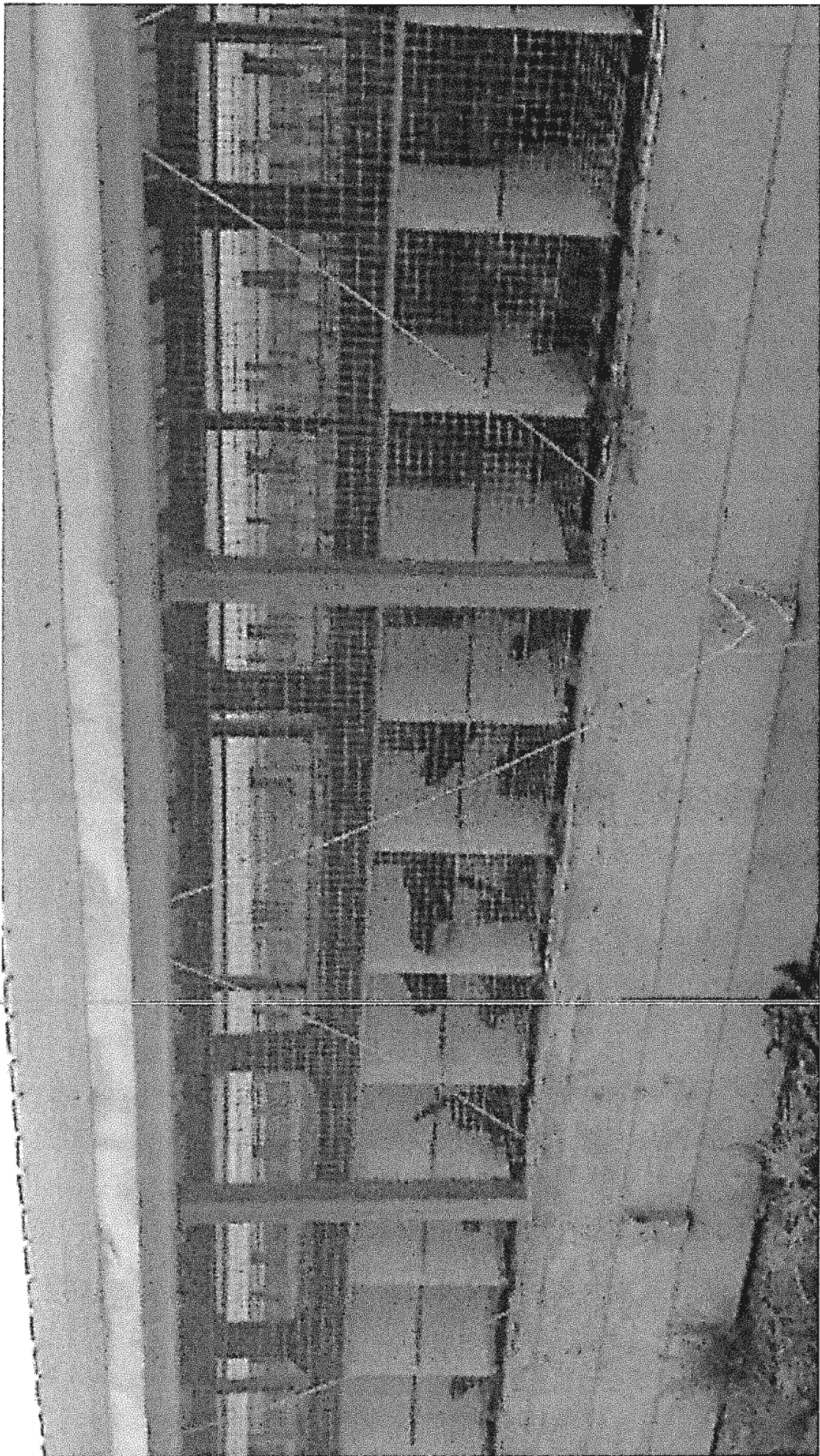


New Style Barn Better Health and Handling









Flexibility of Cages

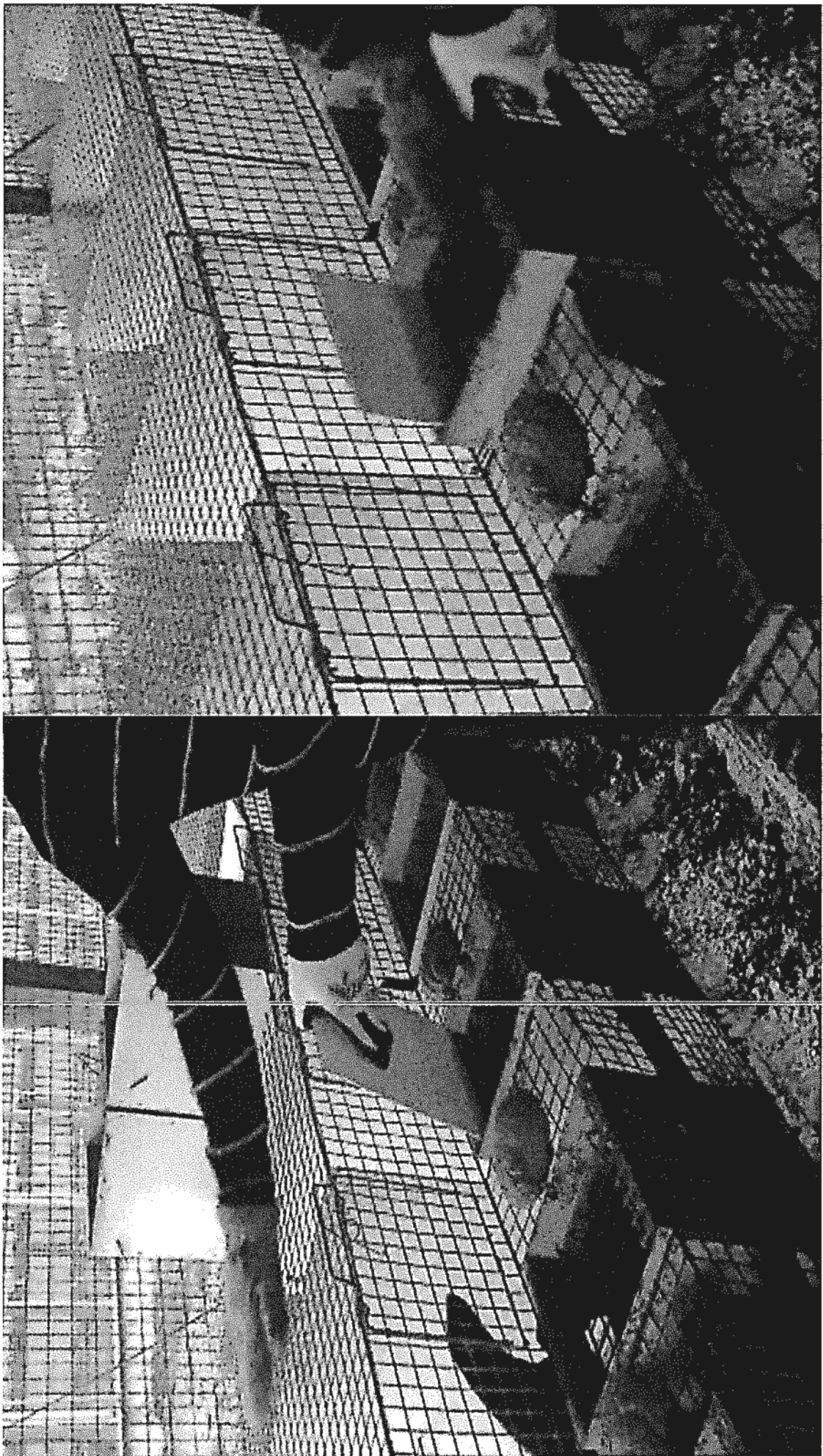
Move mink without touching

Faster moving of mink

Access to water for young kits

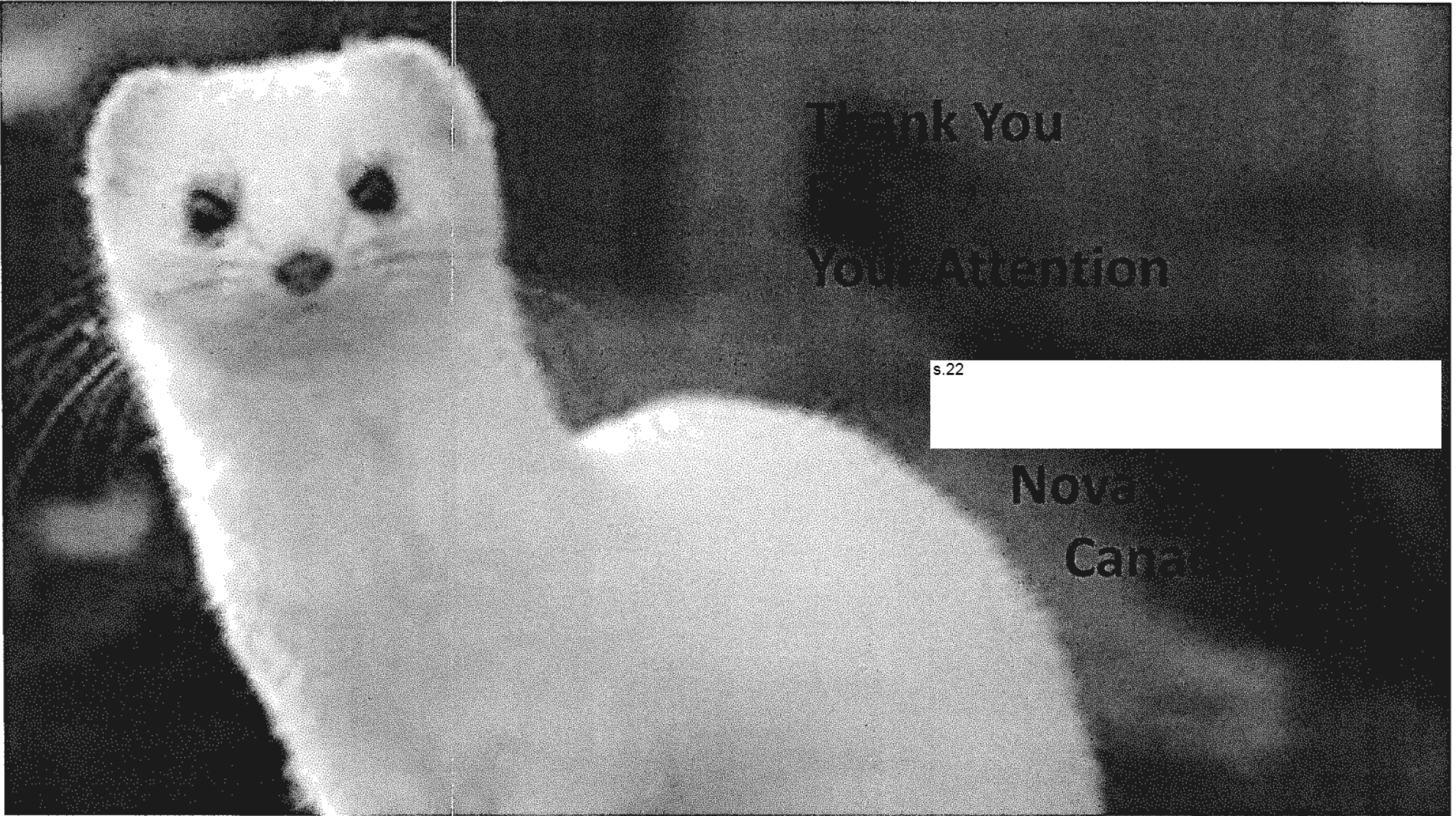
Easy assessment of nursing kits





Handling of Mink

- Once a year to vaccinate them
- In case of sickness for treatment, maybe pelt inspection
- That is it !!!
- Euthanised in the boxes they grew up in



Thank You
for
Your Attention

s.22



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