



Fur Harvesters Auction

Sale Results 2024

Fur Harvesters Auction (FHA) in North Bay, Ontario, has completed its first auction of the year, which took place from March 22-25, 2024. The results were great for Northwest Territories (NWT) trappers. Overall 15,946 pelts sold of 16,566 that were offered, which is a 96.26% clearance rate. This generated a total of \$305,641.97 in sales to NWT trappers, which is a significant increase from March 2023, valued at \$195,856.40.

The Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur (GMVF) Program provides NWT trappers direct access to the international fur market through fur auctions. The result of this sale helps demonstrate the benefit of trapping for NWT residents and the need for continued support for this important traditional lifestyle. The Government of the Northwest Territories is committed to continuing to support this activity to help ensure this healthy lifestyle continues.

Overall, the auction results show an extremely successful sale with high clearance rates and high prices for almost every species. Beaver, otter, marten, lynx, fisher, ermine and wolves all saw higher than average prices than what was seen in 2023. This sale shows that the fur industry has recovered from the pandemic and some species are going higher than pre-pandemic sales.

Below is the total breakdown of the March 2024 FHA sale for NWT Trappers. It is important to note that FHA reserves the right to not sell any pelts if they don't get the price they were graded at.



March 22-24, 2024, Auction Results

Species	# of Pelts Offered	# of Pelts Sold	% of Pelts Sold	Average \$/Pelt	Total \$/Species
Beaver	242	242	100	\$39.27	\$9,502.68
Mink	88	88	100	\$10.40	\$914.80
Sable	1,888	1,848	97	\$85.80	\$158,560.38
Otter	1	1	100	\$51.48	\$51.48
Fisher	13	13	100	\$78.59	\$1,021.68
Lynx	38	38	100	\$212.94	\$8,091.60
Muskrat	13,234	13,066	99	\$3.15	\$41,203.82
Squirrel	428	64	15	\$1.11	\$70.95
Ermine	168	168	100	\$6.42	\$1,079.03
Cross Fox	15	13	87	\$49.70	\$646.14
Arctic Fox	96	96	100	\$87.11	\$8,362.20
Wolf	74	72	97	\$295.48	\$21,274.44
Wolverine	48	48	100	\$542.03	\$26,017.20
Castoreum	187	147	79	\$3.96	\$582.39
Silver Fox	3	3	100	\$30.80	\$92.40
Red Fox	26	24	92	\$12.18	\$292.38
Grizzly Bear	17	15	88	\$1,858.56	\$27,878.40
Totals	16,566	15,946	96		\$305,641.97



Highlights

- Mink trappers will be pleased that 18% of pelts sold received over the advance amount of \$25. Before COVID, mink averaged around \$12/pelt, and after COVID, mink averaged around \$7/pelt. This is the first auction in at least 5 years where mink has sold over the advance amount and will receive a prime fur bonus. This may be due to the closing of European mink ranches, which is increasing the demand for wild mink.
- Fisher also saw a large increase from previous years with a 100% clearance and all pelts selling above the advance amount of \$35.
- Marten trappers will see a great return for their hard work as over 80% of marten pelts sold were above the advance amount of \$65.
- FHA reserves the right to withhold the sale of any pelt if the price isn't high enough. FHA was not receiving the price for muskrat pelts that were graded therefore muskrats have not gone up for sale the past two years. This year, FHA decided to lower their asking price for muskrat and were put up for auction. As a result, muskrat accounted for over 13,000 of the total pelts sold for the NWT, selling 99% of the offering this last sale. Pelts averaged around \$3.15, which is still under the advance of \$5.

Prime Fur Bonus

Good news for those trappers whose prime furs sold at auction over the advance amount will be given a prime fur bonus. The list below provides a snapshot of species that sold above the advance amounts and will receive a prime fur bonus on top of any profits.

Wolverine - 48/48 (100%)

Cross Fox - 11/13 (85%)

Red Fox - 1/24 (4%)

Silver Fox - 1/3 (33%)

Arctic Fox - 95/96 (99%)

Marten - 1,487/1,848 (80%)

Otter - 1/1 (100%)

Squirrel - 0/64 (0%)

Muskrat - 0/13,066 (0%)

Mink - 16/88 (18%)

Lynx - 88/88 (100%)

Grizzly Bear - 14/15 (93%)

Fisher - 13/13 (100%)

Ermine - 123/168 (73%)

Beaver - 208/242 (86%)



Wolf - 46/72 (69%) sold over the advance amount and will receive just a prime fur bonus. Additionally, 18/72 (25%) sold over \$400 and will receive a prime fur bonus and profits.

Trappers can visit the Fur Auction House website to learn more about proper pelt handling to prime fur standards <https://www.furharvesters.com/pdf/pelthandling.pdf>

Next Sale

The second and last auction of 2024, is set for June 15-17, 2024, in North Bay, Ontario. The auction will be live streamed from the FHA website (<https://www.furharvesters.com/>). FHA will post the link to the live auction the day before or the day of the sale.

For more information regarding this sale, please contact:

Sustainable Livelihoods Unit, Environment and Climate Change, GNWT at
ontheland@gov.nt.ca or call 1-866-611-FURS (3877)