

NAFA
FURS BEYOND EXPECTATION

Vision 2020

NAFA'S ETHICAL SOURCING
ACTION PLAN

Our Vision

North American Fur Auctions (NAFA) continues a tradition of over 345 years, in supplying the world's largest and most diverse collection of wild fur from Canada and the United States, and the finest collection of ranch furs from the United States, Canada and Europe.

Our predecessor, the Hudson's Bay Company, established the first wild fur conservation measures over 200 years ago, and during the past 30 years we have endorsed and supported scientific research and the development of animal welfare best practices for ranched and wild fur production in North America and Europe.

We are proud of this work and our ongoing commitment to the environment as well as to the people who live from the land. While many key pieces are already in place, and while a great deal of excellent work has already been done, we recognize that we still have steps to take in order to fully deliver 'certified' product and 'traceability' from producer to consumer.

As we approach 2020 and our 350th year of operation, NAFA has formalized a fur Certification and Traceability policy that takes into account our storied past and the needs of the future.

In implementing this program over the next 3-5 years, NAFA will work in collaboration with our producers, customers, brands, and our international auction house colleagues towards our collective goal, which is to ensure that all fur producers have the opportunity to have their goods certified based on National or Regional best practices, requirements and regulations. Through this approach our industry will be able to provide the assurance required by designers, brands, companies and consumers around the world.

NAFA is committed to staying true to our legacy and core values, while ensuring the needs of our producer, customer and industry stakeholders are met. We are committed to working with all industry sectors to support the development and implementation of certified furs over the next four years, to taking the necessary steps to secure markets, and to ensuring that fur remains in fashion as a responsible choice through 2020 and beyond.



Ranched Fur Production

The raising of furbearing animals on farms has seen many developments of best practices over the 100 plus years that the activity has existed. All farmed mink today originated from North American wild mink. Today, ranch raised mink is many, many generations removed from its wild cousins and has taken on many diverse traits in terms of color, size and fur quality – much of this is due to controlled feed, climate and expert handling.

Ranch mink and fox practices vary throughout North America and Europe, but all are currently guided by best practices of their respective geographical locations and political environments. All practices are based on producing the highest quality fur, which demands the best welfare in order to maintain herd health.

Both the United States and Canada began the development of Best Practices in the mid-1980's, with Europe implementing formal requirements in the late 1990's. Here is a short timeline of where we've come from:

- 1985** - The United States establishes a Farm Certification program.
- 1988** - Canada establishes Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink and Farmed Fox.
- 1999** - The European Commission establishes fur farming requirements that set the bar for fur production in the EU.

2007 - The International Fur Federation (IFF) develops and globally implements an Origin Assured (OA) program that recognizes global best practices, ensuring that each country/region that overseas fur production has these production criteria in place, and enforced.

2009 - The European Fur Breeders Association begins the development of Welfur, which is now overseen by Fur Europe as a new standard for fur farming in Europe. 2013 - Under the regionalization of the IFF, it is agreed that a program more robust than the OA is required to give a higher level of assurance to consumers on the oversight of animal welfare and environmental best practices in fur production.

2013 - The Canadian Codes of Practice are updated by the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) with the input of the Canadian Humane Societies, independent veterinarians, industry experts, and fur farmers from across the country.

2015 - The IFF Americas begins a new process to evaluate Canadian, US and European farming best practice programs in collaboration with Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) and several luxury fashion brands. This will lead an approach to certify ranched fur produced in North America.



Vision 2020: NAFA's Certification and Traceability Action Plan

The following chart outlines NAFA's current steps and future plans to pursue fur production certification, transparency and traceability for ranch raised fur as we move towards 2020 and beyond.

RANCH FUR ACTIONS			
	2016-2017	2018-2019	2020 and Beyond
Objective	Collaborate with the IFF and global auction houses to develop a Ranch Fur Certification and Traceability system that works for NAFA shippers and NAFA customers.	Support Farm Certification systems in North America and Europe to ensure NAFA shippers remain competitive on a global scale.	Full roll-out of Vision 2020: Fur Certification and Traceability program for NAFA ranch furs.
Certification	Support current work being done by National Associations and the IFF to review all Farm Certification programs, and chart a path forward that is practical for the farmer and useful for fashion brands and customers requiring Certification.	Continue to support Farm Certification development and implementation at the farm level.	Offer Certified Ranch Fur to our global customers in Certified Auction lots.
Traceability	<p>NAFA currently traces all ranch fur from the farm to our company, and through the auction selling process.</p> <p>The Pilot Project underway on our Wild Fur Traceability program (see Wild Fur Actions outlined on the following page) will help guide the technology and information systems to allow our customers buying ranch fur to have all the information they require for Certification Assurance, while protecting the privacy of our shippers.</p>	Test and evaluate our two Pilot Project results (see Wild Fur Actions) for data integrity, ease of use, and practicality between NAFA, our customers, and our shippers. Based on results of our evaluation, expand species scope of our traceability program to include ranch mink and fox and consult our ranch fur shippers for program ID requirements.	Move towards 100% traceability for all NAFA furs, wild and ranch.

Wild Fur Production

The trade of wild fur pelts is intrinsically woven into the history of Canada and the United States. Wild fur has been harvested commercially for over 400 years, and today, all the wild furs sold at NAFA are abundant and their trade is highly regulated by government authorities.

Over the past 30 years, there has been significant work done in Canada and the United States on trap research and testing, training and communications, with tens of millions of dollars invested by the trade, governments and NGO's to this work.

Since the signing of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) in 1997 by the European Union, Canada and Russia, with a similar but separate Agreed Minute between the United States and Europe, wild fur best harvesting practices have been developed and implemented in Canada and the United States by government agencies, scientists and trappers.

As the world's largest seller of wild fur, NAFA is taking the lead in developing a wild fur certification program based on the AIHTS requirements in Canada and the Best Management Practices (BMP's) in the United States, as well as Provincial, Territorial and State regulations.

NAFA's Wild Fur Certification and Traceability Program is well under way. We are developing the information and references to educate top fashion brands on the conservation and welfare aspects of regulated fur harvesting in North America, as well as a traceability system that ensures country of origin of each pelt purchased from NAFA.

In addition, we are currently testing, through two Pilot Projects, the ability, practicality and economic impact of tracing furs from certified trappers to the garment producer and ultimately to retail, where consumers can be reassured of the origin of the fur they have purchased, and that it comes from a responsible source.

Our 345-year track record plays a role in ensuring all interested parties that our practices of wild fur harvesting have been time tested. All wild furs sold at NAFA are from abundant wildlife populations, and we are committed to ensuring that these populations remain healthy, stable, and responsibly managed for generations to come.



Vision 2020: NAFA’s Certification and Traceability Action Plan

The following chart outlines NAFA’s current steps and future plans to pursue fur production certification, transparency and traceability for wild fur as we move towards 2020 and beyond.

WILD FUR ACTIONS			
	2016-2017	2018-2019	2020 and Beyond
Objective	Take an industry leadership position by developing a Pilot Project to develop a Wild Fur Certification and Traceability system.	Expand and enhance Pilot Project activities towards broader implementation.	Full roll-out of Fur Certification and Traceability program for NAFA wild furs.
Certification	Further develop Certification requirements of wild fur harvesters throughout North America, requiring all laws, regulations and best practices are followed. Secure a self-declaration of these requirements by all NAFA wild fur shippers.	Broaden scope of Certification program.	Continue to broaden species scope of NAFA’s Certified Wild fur program, moving towards full species implementation.
Traceability	Currently, NAFA traces all furs from shippers. The system will need to be developed further to ensure that we can trace furs from the auction house through the dressing and manufacturing process, and ultimately to the consumer. This will be tested in 2016 and 2017 through two Pilot Projects on Coyote and Bobcat. We are testing tags that can go through the dressing system, with interactive software that will allow customers to read skin tickets and access certain information, such as; species, skin ticket number, country of origin, year, etc. No private information will be released for any NAFA shipper.	Test and evaluate Pilot Project results for data integrity, ease of use, and practicality between NAFA and our customers. Based on results of our evaluation, expand species scope of our Fur Certification and Traceability program.	Move towards 100% traceability for all NAFA furs, wild and ranch.