



Backgrounder: NWT Fur Sales

Saga/American Legend/Fur Harvester's Auction

- The auction is held in March each year in Helsinki, Finland
- It is the largest auction each year for NWT wild fur.
- The auction attracts buyers from around the globe, including the large, important Chinese and Russian markets.

Results

Species	Number Sold	Average Price (\$)	Total Sales (\$)
Beaver	91	13.04	1,186.90
Mink	226	14.43	3,261.70
Marten	3797	113.55	431,130.70
Otter	18	18.49	332.80
Fisher	18	69.91	1,258.40
Lynx	385	111.55	42,946.80
Muskrat	612	2.10	1,286.55
Squirrel	129	1.34	172.24
Ermine	22	2.77	60.97
Cross Fox	26	36.30	943.80
White Fox	326	48.65	15,858.70
Coyote	2	59.11	118.21
Red Fox	49	26.29	1,288.30
Silver Fox	2	13	26

Context

- Marten is the Northwest Territories' most sought-after species. Sales of this fur serve as a bell-weather for the health of the fur industry in general.
- 2017 Marten sales at the Helsinki auction were more than \$160,000 higher than 2016's sales.
- 2013 was the best year for NWT fur over the past five years, with \$960,254 in Marten sold at the Helsinki auction.
- The fur industry fell sharply between 2013 and 2014, with sales of Marten down over 50%
- 2017's results indicate a return to post-2013 form after the low-point of 2016.