

No. 40

1st Session, 14th Legislature, Alberta
8 Elizabeth II

BILL 40

A Bill to License and Regulate Fur Farms

HON. MR. HALMRAST

Explanatory Note

General. This Bill will replace sections 110 to 121 of The Game Act relating to the licensing of fur farms. These provisions are presently administered by the Department of Agriculture while the remainder of The Game Act is administered by the Department of Lands and Forests. The provisions of this Bill are similar in effect and intent to The Game Act sections which are repealed by the Schedule hereto.

2. Interpretation section.

3. Supervisor of Fur Farms to be appointed to administer Act.

4. Licence required to operate fur farm.

5. Application for licence.

6. Issuing of licence.

BILL

No. 40 of 1960

An Act to License and Regulate Fur Farms

(Assented to _____, 1960)

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

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Fur Farms Act*".
2. In this Act,
 - (a) "fur-bearing animal" means any animal that is wild by nature and whose pelt or skin is commonly used for commercial purposes;
 - (b) "fur farm" means a place where two or more fur-bearing animals are kept in captivity;
 - (c) "licence" means a licence to keep a fur farm issued under this Act;
 - (d) "Minister" means the Minister of Agriculture;
 - (e) "Supervisor" means the person appointed as Supervisor of Fur Farms pursuant to section 3.
3. (1) The Minister may appoint a Supervisor of Fur Farms and such inspectors and other officers as may be necessary, and prescribe their duties.
(2) The Supervisor shall administer this Act under the control of the Minister.
4. No person shall operate a fur farm unless he is the holder of a licence in respect of that farm.
5. (1) An application for a licence shall be made to the Supervisor in the form prescribed by the regulations.
(2) The applicant shall furnish the Supervisor with such information about the farm for which the licence is desired, as the Supervisor may require.
6. (1) Upon compliance with the provisions of this Act and the regulations and upon payment of the prescribed licence fee, the Supervisor shall issue a licence to the applicant.

7. Expiry and renewal of licence.

8. Licence for beaver and muskrat.

9. Conditions of operating fur farm.

10. Health restrictions on imported animals.

11. Death or sickness of animals.

(2) A licence shall state the name and address of the licensee, the location of the fur farm in respect of which the licence is issued, the species of fur-bearing animal intended to be kept, and the number of animals for which there is accommodation at the farm.

7. (1) A licence expires on the thirty-first day of August following the date upon which it is issued.

(2) On or before the date a licence expires, the licensee shall make a report to the Supervisor in the form prescribed by the regulations.

(3) No person shall be granted a renewal of a licence until he has made all the returns and reports required by this Act and the regulations.

8. The Supervisor shall not issue a licence with respect to beaver or muskrat, unless the applicant is the holder of a permit under *The Game Act* authorizing him to retain the beaver or muskrat in the area where he proposes to operate the fur farm.

9. (1) A person who keeps fur-bearing animals in captivity shall maintain the premises in which the animals are kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

(2) A person who keeps fur-bearing animals in captivity shall ensure that the pens and enclosures in which the animals are kept are adequately constructed and maintained to prevent the fur-bearing animal from escaping and to prevent other animals from entering.

(3) No person shall set any fur-bearing animal loose to run at large.

10. (1) No person shall import into the Province any fur-bearing animal, other than mink, unless a certificate of health issued by a qualified veterinarian is attached to the bill of lading accompanying each consignment of such animals.

(2) No person shall import any live mink into the Province

(a) unless the mink are of a standard of health approved by the Director of Veterinary Services of the Province of Alberta, and

(b) unless a statement of approval issued by the Director of Veterinary Services is attached to the bill of lading accompanying the mink.

(3) Any fur-bearing animal imported into the Province shall be kept in an isolation pen situated not less than fifty feet from any other animal for a period of thirty days.

11. (1) A person who keeps fur-bearing animals in captivity shall forthwith report to the Supervisor

(a) the death, from any cause whatsoever, of any animal, and

12. Quarantine of a fur farm where contagious or infectious disease.

13. A licensee exporting skins or pelts is required to obtain an export permit from the Supervisor.

14. Dogs that trespass on a fur farm and terrify the animals may be killed.

15. Penalty section.

16. Keeping of records and books.

(b) any outbreak of sickness or disease.

(2) A report under subsection (1) shall be made on a form furnished by the Supervisor.

12. (1) Where the Supervisor has reason to believe that there is on any fur farm a fur-bearing animal that has contracted a contagious or infectious disease, he may order the fur farm into quarantine.

(2) Where the Supervisor has ordered a fur farm into quarantine, he shall cause a quarantine notice to be posted on the entrance to the enclosure surrounding the buildings or pens containing the animals.

(3) No person shall remove a quarantine notice posted pursuant to subsection (2) until the date of expiration shown on the notice.

(4) During the period that a fur farm is quarantined pursuant to this section, no person shall remove from the farm, any animals or equipment other than animals consigned to a laboratory for examination.

13. (1) No licensee shall export from the Province any skin or pelt taken from a fur-bearing animal raised on his fur farm unless he holds an export permit for the skin or pelt granted by the Supervisor.

(2) An application for an export permit shall set forth such information as the Supervisor may require and shall be accompanied by the applicant's licence.

(3) The Supervisor shall endorse the particulars of the export permit upon the fur farm licence.

14. An owner or caretaker of fur-bearing animals kept on a fur farm for any purpose pursuant to a licence issued under this Act may kill any dog found on the premises near the enclosure in which the fur-bearing animals are kept if the dog is terrifying the fur-bearing animals by giving tongue, barking or otherwise.

15. (1) A person who contravenes a provision of this Act is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than twenty dollars and not more than three hundred dollars, and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

(2) A person who contravenes any provision of the regulations is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than fifty dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty days.

16. Every licensee shall keep such records and books and make such returns to the Supervisor as may be prescribed by the regulations.

17. Power to make regulations for the purposes of the Act.

18. Conflicting or duplicate requirements in The Game Act are repealed.

19. Commencement date.

17. The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations

- (a) prescribing the fees to be paid for licences,
- (b) prescribing the forms to be used for the purposes of this Act,
- (c) prescribing the measures to be taken by a licensee for the purpose of maintaining his premises in a sanitary condition and for the control of disease of the fur-bearing animals on a farm,
- (d) regulating or prohibiting the transportation of fur-bearing animals and pelts within the Province, and
- (e) prescribing the records and books to be kept by licensees and prescribing the returns to be made to the Supervisor.

18. *The Game Act*, being chapter 126 of the Revised Statutes is amended in the manner and to the extent enumerated in the Schedule hereto, being amendments consequential upon the passing of this Act.

19. This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to.

SCHEDULE

Amendments to *The Game Act*, being chapter 126 of the Revised Statutes

- (a) Section 2 of the said Act is amended by striking out clauses (*k*) and (*l*) ;
- (b) Section 4 of the said Act is struck out;
- (c) Section 7 of the said Act is amended by striking out the words "big game, game bird, or fur bearing animal" and by substituting the words "big game or game bird";
- (d) Section 19 of the said Act is amended
 - (i) by renumbering the section as subsection (1),
 - (ii) by striking out the words ", or fur bearing animal" where they occur in the renumbered subsection (1),
 - (iii) by adding immediately after the renumbered subsection (1) the following:

(2) Except as is expressly permitted by this Act, the regulations or by *The Fur Farms Act* or the regulations thereunder, no person shall be in possession of any fur-bearing animal or any parts thereof.
- (e) Sections 110 to 121 of the said Act are struck out;
- (f) Section 126, subsection (1) of the said Act is amended
 - (i) by striking out clause (*m*) and by substituting the following:

- (m) for the marking of any big game kept on a big game farm or game bird kept upon a game farm by means of a distinctive mark or tattoo and for the recording of that mark or tattoo with the Department,
 - (ii) as to clause (n) by striking out the words “and fur farms”;
- (g) Section 145 of the said Act is amended
 - (i) by renumbering the section as subsection (1),
 - (ii) by adding immediately after the renumbered subsection (1) the following:
 - (2) Where any conflict occurs between the provisions of this Act or the regulations and *The Fur Farms Act*, the provisions of *The Fur Farms Act* prevail.

No. 40

FIRST SESSION

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE

8 ELIZABETH II

1960

BILL

An Act to License and Regulate
Fur Farms

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

HON. MR. HALMRAST
