

# CRITCH'S MINK RANCH

Registration Pursuant to Section 49 of the Environmental Protection Act.

**NAME OF UNDERTAKING:**

Critch's Mink Ranch

**PROPONENT:**

(I) Name of Corporate Body

Critch's Mink Ranch

(II) Address

General Delivery  
Cavendish, Trinity Bay  
Newfoundland & Labrador  
A0B 1J0

(III) **Chief Executive Officer:**

Name

Henry & Mildred Critch

Official Title

President / Co-owner's

Address

(Same as Above)

Telephone Number

(709) 588-2574

(IV) **Principal Contact Person for Purpose of Environmental Assessment:**

Name

Henry Critch

Official Title

(Same as Above)

Address

(Same as Above)

Telephone Number

(Same as Above)

**THE UNDERTAKING:**

(I) **Nature of Undertaking:**

To develop a mink farm between 100 - 200 female breeder mink for the fur industry. The Kits will be pelted and the furs sent to the North American Fur Breeder Auction (NAFA) in Ontario, and the possibility of other markets as well.

(II) Purpose / Rationale / need for the Undertaking:

We, Henry and Mildred Critch, see an opportunity to become involved in the Mink Fur Industry. Viking Furs has set up in Cavendish, Newfoundland. The mink food, pelting, and the expertise in mink farming has become available.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:**

(I) **Geographical Location:**

The Site, consisting of approximately .5 acres. It is located on Route 80 between the Communities of Cavendish and Heart's Delight/Islington. It is approximately 3 kilometers from the Cavendish dump site and is 1 kilometer from the main highway on the Fox Farm Road.

The Site once belonged to H.Kinsella a former fox farmer. This whole area was zoned for fur farming in '81-'82 .

There is approximately 75 square acres along the fox farm road broken up into 5 acre blocks with a block left on both side of the farms for further expansion.

(II) **Physical Features:**

Three Sheds

One Shed: 85 ft long x 18 ft wide  
Approximately 100 Breeders' Cages and 160 Pelter Cages

Two Sheds: 80 ft long each x 8 ft wide  
160 Pelter Cages in each one and enclosed is the sketch of the sheds and it will be the same for another 100 breeder's

(III) **Construction:**

All of the sheds will be built with concrete blocks sunk into the ground to support the posts and 2' x 4' framing.

The roof will be aluminum sheeting with panel sky lights.

Fabrene Sheeting will be used on the walls to allow sufficient light and air circulation.

The manure will be piled and covered with a tarp, and transported to local farmer's to spread on their fields.

(IV) **Operation:**

The operation of a Mink Farm is determined by the minks breeding cycle:

Breeding: usually begins in the first week of March and lasts for about three weeks, in which time you try to breed all females at least twice.

The second breeding takes place eight days after the first breeding, to ensure fertilization.

One male will breed five females.

(IV) **Operation: (Continued)**

Welping: (having their kits) usually starts from early April through May.

Weaning: (separating from Mother) usually occurs when the Kits are 7-8 weeks old depending on how the mother is still nursing and caring for them.

Vaccination: occurs when the Kits are approximately ten weeks old.

Growing and Furring: takes place through the summer and into the fall.

Grading: is done in the fall to pick out the new years breeding stock.

Pelting: takes place in late November and early December depending on when the pelts are prime.

At the present I am purchasing feed through Viking Furs, ensuring proper diet for the mink. No funding as been applied for.

(V) **Occupations:**

Henry and Mildred Critch will run Critch's Farm if we can get it up and on the go. Some help may be needed depending on the growth of this operation.

(VI) **Project-Related Documents:**

None

**APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:**

Crown Lands

Approved

**SCHEDULE:**

Pending on approval, sheds will be built in 2006.