

WELFARE OF FUR ANIMALS THE NGO PERSPECTIVE

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Also representing FOUR PAWS

EFSA MEETING | 22 January 2024



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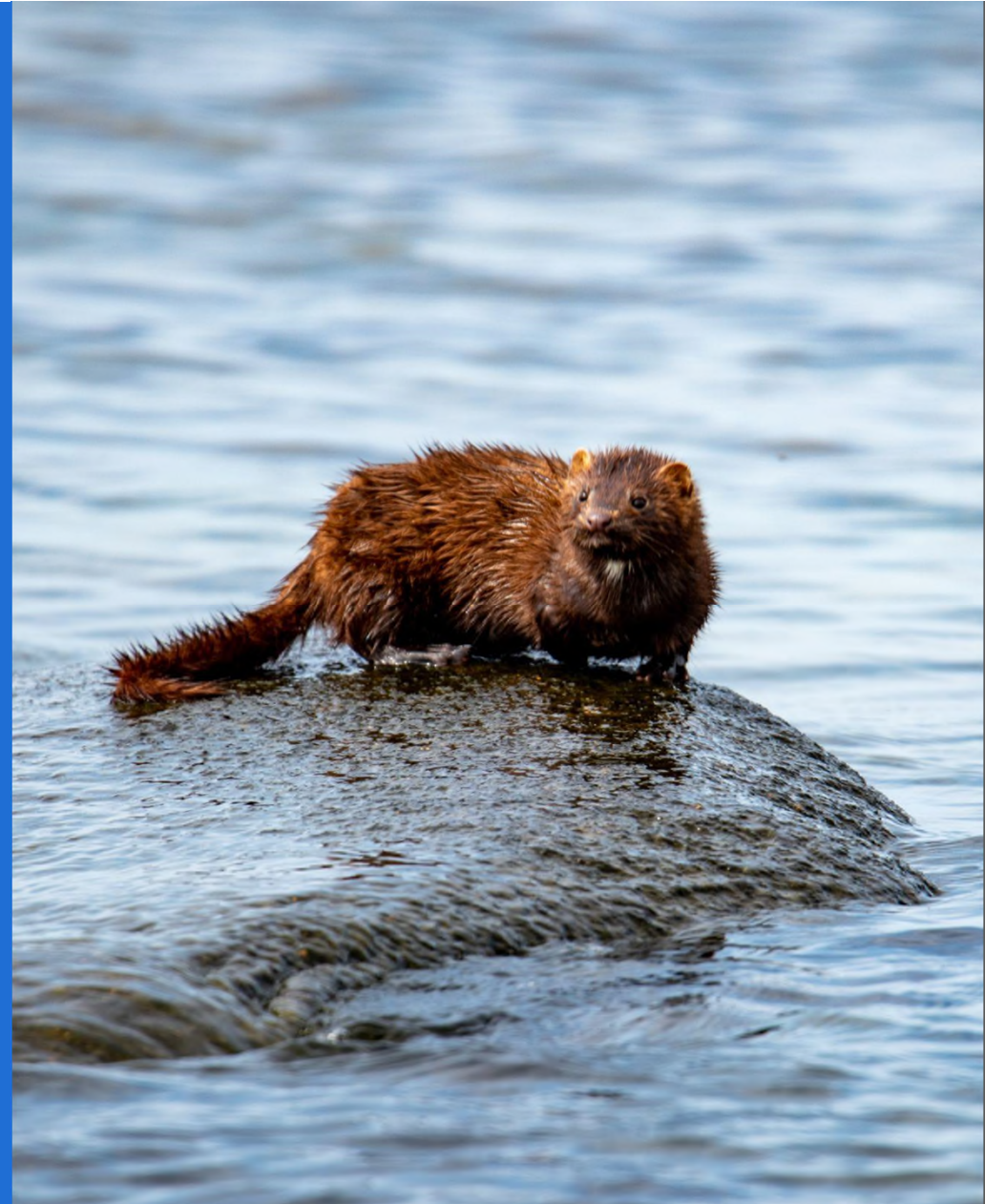
NATURAL BEHAVIOUR OF WILD ANIMALS

Nick Clark

Wildlife Programme Leader

Eurogroup for Animals

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THE FIVE DOMAINS

The concept of the “five domains” (nutrition, physical environment, health, behavioural interactions and mental state) has been developed through scientific evidence to describe the different dimensions of animal welfare. It does not focus only on the absence of negative experiences for the animal but also encompasses positive experiences. **This Regulation should therefore be based on the concept of the “five domains”.**

European Commission. Proposal for new rules on the welfare of dogs and cats and their traceability. Recital 22. December 2023.

THE FIVE DOMAINS

1. Health
2. Nutrition
3. Behaviour
4. Environment
5. Mental state



→ shape legislation that ensure a good life for all animals kept and used for commercial purposes

COMPLEX BIOLOGICAL AND SPECIES-SPECIFIC NEEDS

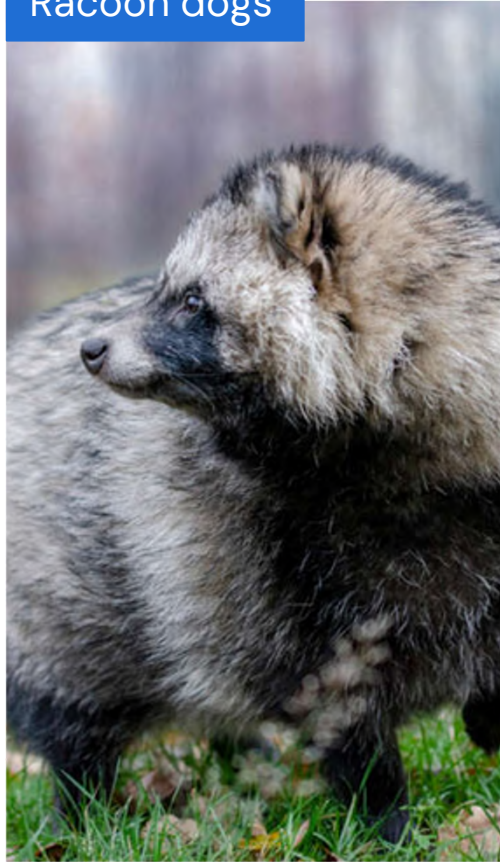
Mink



Foxes



Raccoon dogs



Chinchillas











A LIFE ON A FUR FARM IS NOT WORTH LIVING

The conditions on fur farms are similar worldwide

Fur farming in China



@Rebecca Cappelli / SLAY documentary

Fur farming in Europe



@Stefano Belacchi / Essere Animali

WHY AT THIS VERY MOMENT?

20

Member States have already implemented some sort of legislative measures

At the AGRIFISH Council meeting in

June 2023

a call to ban fur farming gained the support of the majority of delegations

The time is NOW!



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THE SCIENTIFIC CASE TO BAN FUR FARMING

Mark Glover MSc
Director
Respect for Animals

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NOTHING HAS CHANGED IN 23 YEARS...

“Since current husbandry systems cause serious problems for all species of animals reared for fur, efforts should be made for all species to design housing systems which fulfill the needs of the animals.”

Report of the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare Adopted on 12-13 December 2001 – European Commission – Health and consumer protection Directorate General

ANIMALS KEPT ON FACTORY FUR FARMS ARE NOT LIKE OTHER FARM ANIMALS



"The welfare of mink, foxes and raccoon dogs in current housing systems is **severely compromised** across all five domains, resulting in a life not worth living"

THERE ARE INHERENT PROBLEMS WITH FUR FARMING THAT CANNOT BE RESOLVED



IF THESE MEASURES HAD BEEN APPLIED, THE PRACTICE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE ILLEGAL

Council Directive 98/58/EC concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes:

“No animal shall be kept for farming purposes unless it can reasonably be expected, on the basis of its genotype or phenotype, that it can be kept without detrimental effect on its health or welfare”

Council of Europe Recommendation Concerning Fur Animals (1999):

“No animal shall be kept for its fur if:

- a. the conditions of this Recommendation cannot be met, or if*
- b. the animal belongs to a species whose members, despite these conditions being met, cannot adapt to captivity without welfare problems.”*

THE FUR INDUSTRY'S 'WELFUR' CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

Certification programmes and “ethical” or “sustainable” fur schemes mislead consumers and contribute to ‘green-washing’

Dead animals left in their cage



Filthy conditions in cages



Animals living with injuries, infections and deformities

Dead animals, with maggots, left in cage



THE FUR INDUSTRY'S 'WELFUR' CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

with 3a, floor area in Period 3 and 3b, floor area/mink in Period 3.

Reminder:

$$S_3^{aa} = \begin{cases} S_3^a + (S_3^b - S_3^a) \mu_{3a} & \text{if } S_3^a \leq S_3^b \\ S_3^b + (S_3^a - S_3^b) \mu_{3a} & \text{if } S_3^b \leq S_3^a \end{cases}$$

Therefore, with the μ listed above:

$$S_3^{aa} = \begin{cases} S_3^a + 0.11(S_3^b - S_3^a) & \text{if } S_3^a \leq S_3^b \\ S_3^b + 0.33(S_3^a - S_3^b) & \text{if } S_3^b \leq S_3^a \end{cases}$$

Where S_{3a} and S_{3b} are the partial scores obtained by a given farm for Sub-measurements *Floor area* and *Floor area/mink* respectively.

μ_a and μ_b are the capacities of Sub-measurements *Floor area* and *Floor area/mink* respectively.

Score S^{aa} for Sub-measurement of *Area available*

The three sub-scores are combined to form the partial score S^{aa} for Sub-measurement of *Area available* using a Choquet integral. The parameters of the Choquet integral are:

μ_a	=	0.12	μ_{2a}	=	0.12
μ_b	=	0.10	μ_{2b}	=	0.45
μ_c	=	0.36	μ_{2c}	=	0.59

with 1 = Period 1, 2 = Period 2 and 3 = Period 3

Reminder:

$$S^{aa}\text{-score} = \begin{cases} S_1^{aa} + (S_2^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) \mu_{2a} + (S_3^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) \mu_{2b} & \text{if } S_1^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \\ S_1^{aa} + (S_3^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) \mu_{2a} + (S_2^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) \mu_{2c} & \text{if } S_1^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \\ S_2^{aa} + (S_1^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) \mu_{1a} + (S_3^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) \mu_{1b} & \text{if } S_2^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \\ S_2^{aa} + (S_3^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) \mu_{1a} + (S_1^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) \mu_{1c} & \text{if } S_2^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \\ S_3^{aa} + (S_1^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) \mu_{1a} + (S_2^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) \mu_{1b} & \text{if } S_3^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \\ S_3^{aa} + (S_2^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) \mu_{1a} + (S_1^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) \mu_{1c} & \text{if } S_3^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \end{cases}$$

Therefore, with the μ listed above:

$$S^{aa}\text{-score} = \begin{cases} S_1^{aa} - 0.59(S_2^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) + 0.36(S_3^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) & \text{if } S_1^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \\ S_1^{aa} + 0.59(S_3^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) + 0.10(S_2^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) & \text{if } S_1^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \\ S_2^{aa} + 0.45(S_1^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) + 0.36(S_3^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) & \text{if } S_2^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \\ S_2^{aa} + 0.45(S_3^{aa} - S_2^{aa}) + 0.12(S_1^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) & \text{if } S_2^{aa} \leq S_3^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \\ S_3^{aa} + 0.12(S_1^{aa} - S_3^{aa}) + 0.10(S_2^{aa} - S_1^{aa}) & \text{if } S_3^{aa} \leq S_1^{aa} \leq S_2^{aa} \end{cases}$$

Where S_1^{aa} , S_2^{aa} and S_3^{aa} are the sub-scores obtained by a given farm for Sub-measurement of *Area available* in Periods 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

μ_a , μ_b and μ_c are the capacities of Sub-measurement of *Area available* in Periods 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

μ_{2a} is the capacity of the group made from the measurements in period 1 and 2 and so on...

Sub-scores S_1^h , S_2^h and S_3^h for Periods 1, 2 and 3 for Sub-measurement of *Cage height*

The score of a farm with regard to Sub-measurement of *Cage height* is calculated from the % of mink within each level of the scale used to assess cage height (3 levels here):

Level	0	1	2
% of mink	P_{10}^h	P_{11}^h	P_{12}^h
Let $I_i =$	$100 \frac{\sum_{k=0}^2 W_{i,k}^h P_{i,k}^h}{W_{i,2}^h}$		
	with $i = 1, 2$ or 3 according to the period and $j = 0, 1$ or 2 according to the level...		
Weights	$W_{1,0}^h = 0$	$W_{1,1}^h = 1$	$W_{1,2}^h = 5$

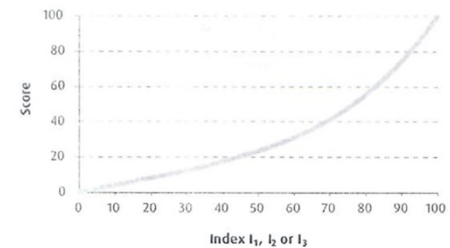
I_i is computed into a score using *t*-spline functions (Figure 24) as follows:

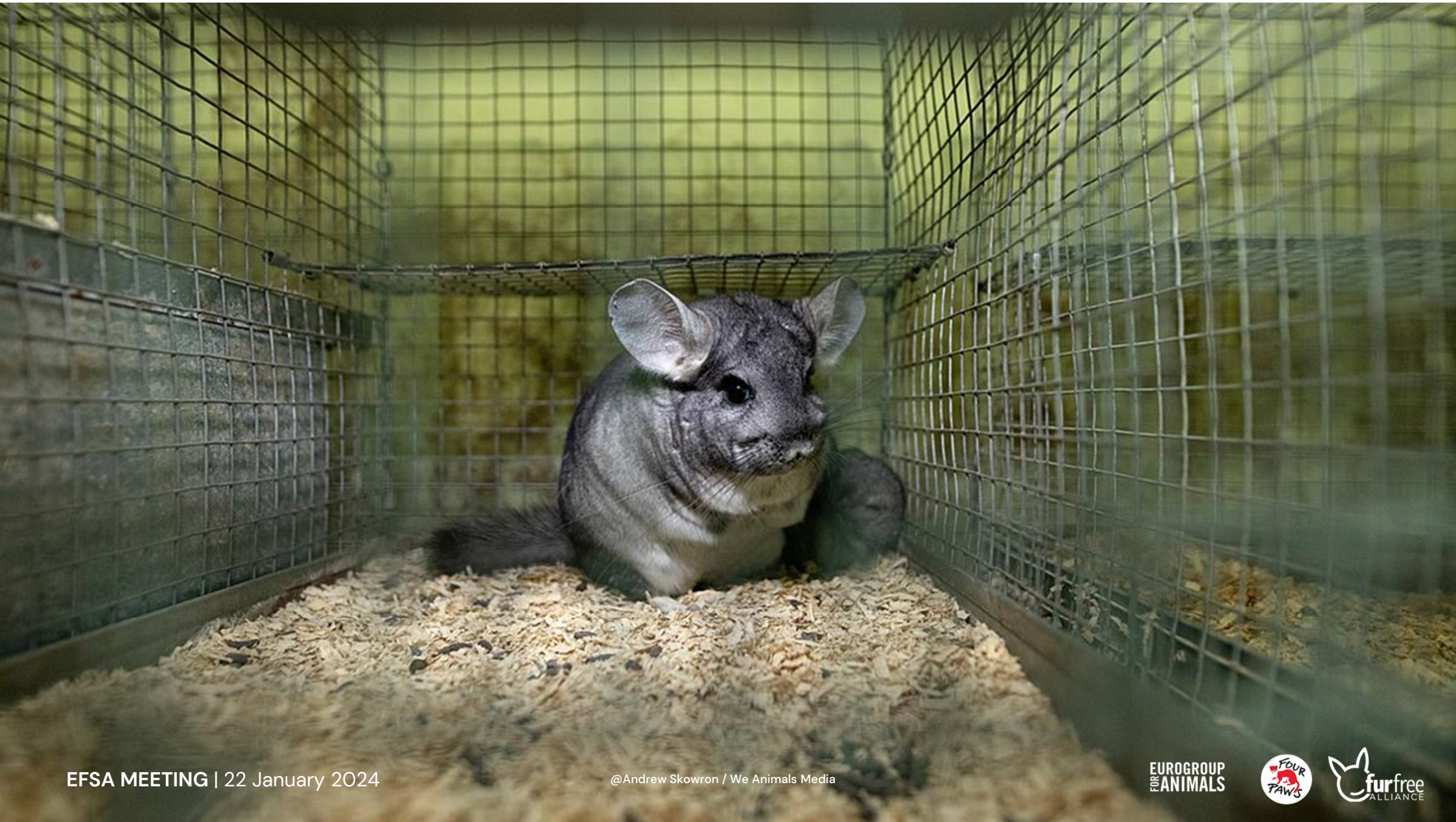
$$\text{Score} = a_x + b_x \times I_i + c_x \times I_i^2 + d_x \times I_i^3 \quad i = 1, 2 \text{ or } 3$$

with $x = 1$ when $I_i < k$ and $x = 2$ when $I_i \geq k$

Criterion 5 - Floor area/mink - Period 3

a_1	0	a_2	-17.8675694095432788799371338
b_1	0.4243408069822428019257643	b_2	1.4963949714896713771850045
c_1	-0.0022516430531387401567378	c_2	-0.0236927263423259183705571
d_1	0.0000622147804271812240049	d_2	0.0002051553356838930596701
k	50		





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@Andrew Skowron / We Animals Media

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Slide 21

- 1 I'll double check with Mark but looks great to me, thanks!
Respect for Animals, 18/01/2024
- 2 Oki, thank you Richard (in French). Let me know when you are 100% happy and i'll send the presentation to EFSA (deadline is today)
1 total reaction
Respect for Animals reacted with FR at 2024-01-18 07:03 am
Marie Cochet, 18/01/2024
- 2 We're happy! Good to go!
Respect for Animals, 18/01/2024
- 1 @richard@respectforanimals.org like this? just a photo or do you want to add some text too?
Reassigned to richard@respectforanimals.org
Marie Cochet, 18/01/2024
- 3 Amazing!! Thank you so much Richard :) I'll send everything in the next hour.
Marie Cochet, 18/01/2024



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THANK
YOU

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