



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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The Annual Fall auction of U.S. Government Alaska sealskins will be held in St. Louis, Mo., on October 18, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes announced today.

Approximately 18,000 government skins will be offered at the sale. For the first time in a number of years there will be no concurrent offering of blue fox skins. The auction will be held by the Fouke Fur Co., government agents in processing and selling of the furs.

Much work has been done in improving government seal skins in recent years. For a long period they could only be dyed black but special processes and dyes have made it possible to offer them in two shades of brown as well as the standard black. In addition, a buffing process has made the skins much lighter and more pliable and, therefore, better suited for fine tailoring.

U.S. Government seal skins come from the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea near Alaska. The government has been in charge of sealing operations under international agreement since 1910.

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