



Wildlife Importation Regulations Summary

For the importation of native wild animals and wild birds into the state of North Carolina, a Wildlife Import/Export permit is required, which can be found at:

<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Licensing/OtherLicensesPermits/WildlifeImportationExportation.aspx>.

However, Tongueless or African Clawed Frogs, coyotes, and any species in the family Cervidae may not be imported into North Carolina; and the importation of gray foxes is prohibited in the following counties: Anson, Avery, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Davidson, Gaston, Lincoln, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Rowan, Rutherford, Stanly, Union and Yancey.

For skunk, fox, raccoon, ringtail, bobcat, other North and South American felines such as lynx, cougars, jaguars, etc., marten, brushtail possum, a permit must be obtained from the State Veterinarian before the animal(s) can be imported into North Carolina. In addition, permits shall be issued only if the animal(s) will be used in a research institute, exhibition by a USDA licensed exhibitor, or organized entertainment as in zoos or circuses.

Camelids, bison, and other bovidae other than domestic cattle may be imported into North Carolina if accompanied by an official health certificate issued by a licensed, accredited veterinarian, confirming: all animals six months of age or older have tested negative for brucellosis within 30 days prior to importation; all animals six months of age or older have tested negative for tuberculosis within 60 days prior to importation; the herd of origin has had no brucellosis or tuberculosis diagnosed within the past 12 months. However, these requirements do not apply to llamas, vicunas, alpacas, and guanacos from other states that are tuberculosis Accredited-Free and brucellosis Certified-Free, when accompanied by an official health certificate.

Waterfowl imported into North Carolina must be received from facilities or individuals who are certified under the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) as being negative for pullorum-typoid (P-T) and avian influenza. If source is not a part of NPIP, they must be tested negative by the NPIP standard within 30 days prior to transport.

Any species or hybrid of an animal not otherwise covered in the Administrative Code that is found to exist in the wild or naturally occurs in the wild must be accompanied by a valid certificate of veterinary inspection. Health certificates for any species should be on hand and ready for inspection by authorized Commission personnel upon request.



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Import/Export permits are authorized for a specified time frame which the applicant indicates on the Wildlife Import/Export Permit Application. If more time is needed, another application must be filled out and submitted to the Wildlife Resource Commission.

Additionally, a Wildlife Captivity License

(<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Licensing/OtherLicensesPermits/WildlifeCaptivityLicense.aspx>) will also be needed to possess wild animals or wild birds that are crippled, tame, or unfit for immediate release into their natural habitat for scientific, educational, exhibition, or other purposes. These wild animals and wild birds cannot be kept as a pet or for amusement or companionship purposes, and before a license can be issued, it must be determined that the wild animal or wild bird was acquired lawfully. No captivity license will be issued until the applicant has constructed or acquired a facility for keeping the animal or bird that complies to the standards found in 15A NCAC 10H .0302 and the suitability of the facility has been verified on inspection. Any substantial deviation from the requirements of keeping a wild animal or wild bird renders the possession of a wild animal or wild bird unlawful.