


Guidelines for importing and exporting biological samples


DATA for LIFE®

Importing and exporting biological materials to and from the United States requires government oversight to prevent the transportation of exotic diseases and the supplying of illegal markets. Import and export permits and licenses must be obtained from the following government agencies according to these guidelines.

Read on to ensure you are taking the right steps for your project.



	US Fish & Wildlife Service	US Fish & Wildlife Service	US Department of Agriculture	Department of Health and Human Services
	Office of the Interior	Division of Management Authority	Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
	Office of Law Enforcement	(Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)	Veterinary Services	Import Permit Program
IMPORTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Animal materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Threatened animal materials (see Appendix I, II, III for a list of species)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Livestock or poultry animal materials (including those bred for laboratory use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Known to be infectious human materialsKnown to be infectious animal materialsNon-human primate materialsBat materials
EXCLUDES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Livestock or poultry animal materialsHuman materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Non-threatened animal materialsHuman materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Known to be infectious livestock or poultry animal materialsAnimal materials not derived from livestock or poultryHuman materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Known to be infectious human materialsKnown to be infectious animal materials (except non-human primate and bat)
APPLY AT	USFW eLicense website	USFW ePermit website	APHIS website	CDC website
FREQUENCY	Annual, per site, per species	Per shipment(s), per species	Per shipment(s), per species	Per species
FORM	General	3-200-37e (Appendix I) None (Appendix II, III)	VS16-3 VS16-6A	General
APPROVAL	1–2 weeks	1–2 weeks	4–6 weeks	4–6 weeks
ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain license on site	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain permit on siteProvide exporter with copy of permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain permit on siteProvide exporter with copy of permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain permit on siteProvide exporter with copy of permit
IN LIEU	None	None	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If materials do not require CDC permit, exporter includes with shipment a letter stating material is not known to be infectious



		US Fish & Wildlife Service	
		Division of Management Authority	US Department of Commerce
	None	(Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)	Bureau of Industry and Security
EXPORTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Human materialsAnimal materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Threatened animal materials (see Appendix I, II, III for a list of species)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Known to be infectious human materialsKnown to be infectious animal materials
EXCLUDES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Threatened animal materialsKnown to be infectious human materialsKnown to be infectious animal materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Non-threatened animal materialsHuman materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Known to be infectious human materialsKnown to be infectious animal materials
APPLY AT	None	USFW ePermit website	BIS website
FREQUENCY	None	Per shipment(s), per species	Per shipment(s), per species, per nation
FORM	None	3-200-37e (Appendix I) 3-200-29 (Appendix II, III)	General
APPROVAL	None	1–2 weeks	4–6 weeks
ACTION	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain permit on siteInclude copy of permit with shipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain license on siteInclude copy of license with shipment
IN LIEU	None	None	None

Contact us now to learn more about importing and exporting your biological samples.