



Rhode Island  
 Department of Environmental Management  
 DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

277 Great Neck Road  
 West Kingston, RI 02892

TEL 401-789-0281  
 FAX 401-783-7490

**APPLICATION FOR NATIVE WILD ANIMAL  
 POSSESSION/IMPORTATION PERMIT**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Please type or print all information. Attach additional sheets for explanation, if necessary.
2. Refer to the *Rules and Regulations Governing Importation and Possession of Wild Animals* for specific prohibitions, exemptions, and other requirements.
3. Only one (1) animal can be listed per application form except when importation is for exhibition purposes.
4. If application is for exhibition purposes only complete PARTSA - D.
5. If application is for permit renewal complete PARTS A - C, E(4) & G
6. This application must be filled out COMPLETELY and all applicable information provided or application may not be processed.

New Applicant

Renewal— Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART A: PURPOSE FOR POSSESSION/IMPORTATION**

Breeding

Exhibition

Pet Ownership

Zoo

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**PART B: OWNER/IMPORTER INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Alternate/Cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART C: NATIVE WILD ANIMAL INFORMATION**

*If multiple animals are being imported for the purpose of exhibition, please attach data for each individual animal which includes all of the details requested below.*

Species (Common Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Scientific Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Identification (tag #, tattoo, pet tag, band #): \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal permit number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**PART D: EXHIBITION INFORMATION**

*For multiple events within calendar year, please attach a separate schedule listing location and date of each event.*

If Importation is for Exhibition Purposes:

Date of event: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of event and location of where animal will be kept, if different: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART E. IMPORTATION/HOUSING INFORMATION**

(1) Date of importation: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Carrier and probable point of first arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) The location where the animal will be held in quarantine pending tests/veterinary examination, and location phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Location where animal will be permanently housed following quarantine: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART F: NATIVE WILD ANIMAL ACQUISITION INFORMATION**

How the animal will be obtained:  Purchase  Gift  Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

If the animal will be obtained from a business, please provide the following:

Name of individual/ business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART G: VETERINARIAN**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility with which veterinarian is affiliated: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility's address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART H: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS**

**In addition to the above listed information, the applicant must also provide, along with the application:**

1. A "Health Certificate" (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection) issued by a federally- accredited veterinarian licensed in the state of origin of the animal. The Health Certificate is to include the results and test dates of any testing that was determined necessary by the Director prior to entry into the state of Rhode Island. The Health Certificate must be as defined in Section 3.6 of the Rhode Island Rules and Regulations Governing Importation and Possession of Wild Animals.
2. A signed letter from the Veterinarian listed above (Part G) stating that he/she will provide routine medical care for the animal as well as performing those tests and procedures required by the Department.
3. A detailed written description of the manner in which the animal's nutritional, housing and exercise needs will be met as well as any needs specific to the particular species.
4. A signed letter from the applicant describing the applicant's experience providing care for animals in general and for this particular species of animal(s) which is the subject of this permit application.
5. A signed letter from the Animal Control Officer, or individual in charge of Animal Control, in the municipality where the animal will be housed, stating that there are no municipal ordinances prohibiting ownership of the subject animal(s) in this location.
6. The permit application, letter from the veterinarian, and written description must be submitted a minimum of seven (7) days preceding the probable date of shipment.

**The Signatory below attests to possess knowledge and understanding of applicable laws, regulations and requirements, governing the proposed activity and in addition releases and holds harmless the Department of Environmental Management and the State of Rhode Island as well as their employees, and agents from liability for any injury, damage, or disease caused by any animal possessed or imported under the permit if issued. Applicant assumes all liability associated with said permit, to include treatment for and prevention of such injury, damage, or disease.**

**I (print name), \_\_\_\_\_ will not release the above indicated animal into the wild, nor keep it in an outdoor habitat from which it could escape.**

**Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**DEM Use Only**

**Received Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspected By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PERMIT #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICABLE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Applications for the importation and/or possession of native wild animals shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and other requirements or they shall not be approved. A selection of applicable laws, regulations, and prohibitions is provided below. Please refer to the specific documents for additional information.

**SELECT PROHIBITIONS** *(See Rules and Regulations Governing Importation and Possession of Wild Animals for a complete listing)*

1. **Possession of Wild Carnivores:** All exotic wild animals and hybrids of the order Carnivora for which there is no USDA conditionally licensed or unconditionally licensed rabies vaccine are expressly prohibited from importation or ownership without the issuance of a valid permit by the Rules and Regulations Governing the Importation and Possession of Wild Animals. Ownership is restricted to bona fide researchers, USDA licensed exhibitors authorized to possess animals of this order, and Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) certified facilities.
2. **Possession of Native Wildlife:** All native wild animals are expressly prohibited from importation or ownership without the issuance of a valid permit by the Department. Ownership is restricted to the Department, the USFWS, AZA certified zoos and aquariums, research institutions and researchers involved in approved bona fide research or project as determined by the Director, and authorized USDA licensed exhibitors.
3. **Possession of American Bullfrog:** The importation or possession of bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) is expressly prohibited, except for flesh that is cooked or frozen and intended for human consumption.

**APPLICABLE REGULATIONS**

Regulations can be found at the RI DEM website: <http://www.dem.ri.gov>

RHODE ISLAND RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING IMPORTATION AND POSSESSION OF WILD ANIMALS <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/250-40-05-3>

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORTATION, FEEDING, AND BAITING OF CERVIDS IN RHODE ISLAND <http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/cervid.pdf>

RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PREVENTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION OF RABIES WITHIN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/250-40-05-2>

**RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS**

State of Rhode Island General Laws/ Title 4- Animals and Animal Husbandry

State of Rhode Island General Laws/ Title 20- Fish and Wildlife