Prohibitions and Restrictions concerning Endangered Species and Wildlife

Document last reviewed February 2020

Enquiries concerning this instruction:
E-mail: rcpr@revenue.ie
Table of Contents

1. Introduction ..........................................................................................................3
2. Legislation .............................................................................................................3
3. Permits and Certificates ........................................................................................3
4. Action by Customs ................................................................................................4
5. Designated Points of Entry and Exit ....................................................................4
6. Risk Information Form ..........................................................................................4
7. Additional Information .........................................................................................4
8. Contact Information ..............................................................................................5
ANNEX I .........................................................................................................................6
ANNEX II ........................................................................................................................7
1. Introduction

CITES is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. The purpose of this Convention is to protect endangered species of fauna and flora and this is carried out by the implementation of controls on international trade in specimens of these species.

The competent authority in Ireland with responsibility for CITES is the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Revenue’s role relates to possible intervention and control at points of importation and exportation.

2. Legislation

CITES Convention

Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein; and its amendments


Wildlife Act, 1976 as amended

Customs Act 2015

3. Permits and Certificates

CITES regulation and control of international trade in various endangered species is based on a system of certificates (EC Trade Certificates – also known as Article 10’s), import notifications and import, export and re-export permits. In this regard, the competent authority issues permits for the import, export or re-export of the species in question or certificates for the movement of Annex A specimens within the European Union. These documents must be presented to customs before consignments can be imported, exported or re-exported.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is the competent authority in Ireland with responsibility for the issuing of CITES permits and certificates.

The CITES Import/Export/Re-Export Permit consists of three coloured sheets. The top copy (original) is buff with a yellow carbon copy for the holder and the third green carbon sheet is the copy for customs.

A sample permit can be found in the ANNEX I to this manual.

The EC Trade certificate (Article 10) is a yellow document that should accompany all Annex A CITES listed plants, animals and/or their parts and derivatives for trade or movement within the European Union.
4. **Action by Customs**

Where a CITES licence, permit or certificate is presented to Customs, officers should:

- ensure that the licence presented is valid and that it relates to the specific species being imported / exported / re-exported;
- check that the licence is within date (each permit has a six-month validity);
- endorse the licence with the official station stamp;
- where the licence has not been exhausted, return it to the importer/exporter;
- where the licence has been exhausted, retain the green copy and return it to the Irish CITES Management Authority.

If a customs officer suspects that goods are being exported or imported in contravention of CITES, the consignment should be detained and staff should contact the national CITES Liaison Officer (see section 8 for contact information).

5. **Designated Points of Entry and Exit**

Under the Wildlife Act, 1976 and Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 species covered under the CITES Convention can only be imported from or exported to third countries through the designated ports or airports listed in [ANNEX II](#).

6. **Risk Information Form**

The Risk Information Form (RIF), which is part of Customs Risk Management System (CRMS) should be used by staff to inform other EU Customs authorities of any irregularities which have come to light in respect of the import or export of goods in contravention of the CITES Convention.

For further information staff should contact:

Customs Risk Management Unit
Email: customsriskunitgroup@revenue.ie
Tel: 01-6744330

7. **Additional Information**

CITES website - [http://cites.org/](http://cites.org/)

CITES species database - [http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/species.html](http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/species.html)

Irish CITES Management Authority mailbox – cites@chg.gov.ie
8. Contact Information

CITES Liaison Officer
Prohibitions and Restrictions Unit
Customs Division
Email: rcpr@revenue.ie
Phone: 01-6744342

CITES Management Authority – Ireland
Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,
Biodiversity and EU Programmes,
National Parks and Wildlife Service,
90 North King Street, Dublin 7. D07 N7CV
Email: CITES@chg.gov.ie
Phone: 01-8883074
ANNEX I

Sample permit/certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EUROPEAN UNION</th>
<th>PERMIT/CERTIFICATE</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Exporter/Re-exporter</td>
<td>IMPORT</td>
<td>9. Last day of validity:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Importer</td>
<td>EXPORT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RE-EXPORT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OTHER:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 4. Country of (re)-export | |
| 5. Country of import | |
| 6. Authorized location for live specimens of Annex A species | |
| 7. Issuing Management Authority | |

| 8. Description of specimens (incl. marks, sex/date of birth for live animals) | 9. Net mass (kg) | 10. Quantity |
| 15. Country of origin | |
| 16. Permit No | 17. Date of issue |
| 18. Country of last re-export | |
| 19. Certificate No | 20. Date of issue |

21. Scientific name of species

22. Common name of species

23. Special conditions

This permit/certificate is only valid if live animals are transported in compliance with the CITES Guidelines for the Transport and Preparation for Shipment of Live Wild Animals or, in the case of air transport, the Live Animals Regulations published by the International Air Transport Association (IATA)

24. The (re)-export documentation from the country of (re)-export

☐ has been surrendered to the issuing authority
☐ has to be surrendered to the border customs office of introduction

25. Bill of Lading / Air Waybill Number:

26. The ☐ importation ☐ exportation ☐ re-exportation 
of the goods described above is hereby permitted.

Signature and official stamp:

Name of issuing official:
Place and date of issue:

27. For customs use only

| Quantity/ net mass (kg) actually imported or (re-)exported | Number of animals dead on arrival |

Signature and official stamp:

Customs document

Type:

Number:

Date:
## ANNEX II

### Designated Customs Offices for CITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Live Animals</th>
<th>Live Plants</th>
<th>Timber</th>
<th>Parts and Derivatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Airport (Registered Equidae ONLY)</td>
<td>Dublin Airport</td>
<td>Cork Port</td>
<td>Cork Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon Airport (Registered Equidae and ungulates ONLY)</td>
<td>Dublin Port</td>
<td>Dublin Port</td>
<td>Dublin Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dundalk Port</td>
<td>Shannon Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Foynes Port</td>
<td>Cork Port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Greenore Port</td>
<td>Dublin Port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limerick Port</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wicklow Port</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Other live animals must firstly be checked at another Member State prior to their arrival.