

**Exporting Injurious Wildlife:  
A Guide for Businesses  
(Revised November 07, 2017)**

As of April 9, 2015, the four large non-native snakes shown below will be added to the list of injurious species barred in the United States from import and interstate transport under the Lacey Act:

- Reticulated python (*Python reticulatus*)
- DeSchauensee's anaconda (*Eunectes deschauenseei*)
- Green anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*)
- Beni anaconda (*Eunectes beniensis*)
- While this listing generally makes it illegal to import live specimens of these snakes into the United States, however, it does not prohibit export under a Service-issued [designated port exception permit](#).

### Scenarios

The following scenarios provide examples of legal and illegal export for commercial shipments of snakes. These same requirements also apply to the export of live specimens of any species listed as injurious and to personal travel with "pets" or personal shipment of injurious wildlife. Please note that since each of the snake species shown above is listed on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), any export must be accompanied by a valid CITES export permit issued by the United States that must be certified by a Service wildlife inspector before the shipment leaves the country.

### Air Cargo

- *Mom and Pop Snakes, located in San Francisco, California, wants to export a shipment of live reticulated pythons to Japan. The animals are booked on Far East Airlines Flight #123 (San Francisco to Tokyo). Can this shipment be exported as booked?*

Yes. The shipment is booked on an international flight departing a Service designated Territory.

- *Best Snakes Inc., located in Tallahassee, Florida, wants to export a shipment of yellow anacondas to Jamaica from Tampa. Can the shipment be exported as booked?*

If the company has obtained a designated port exception permit authorizing export from Tampa, then the answer is yes.

## **Trucked Freight**

- *Great Snakes Alive.com wants to send five African pythons to a customer in Vancouver, Canada. The company keeps its stock in Spokane, Washington, and plans to send the snakes by truck to Canada via the border port of Blaine, Washington. Can the snakes be exported via this routing?*

Yes, but the exporter first needs to obtain a designated port exception permit authorizing use of this non-designated port.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Office of Law Enforcement  
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS:OLE  
Falls Church, Virginia 22041  
Phone: (703) 358-1949  
E-mail: lawenforcement@fws.gov