(b) Non-captive-bred species. The list in this paragraph includes species of non-captive-bred exotic birds and countries for which importation into the United States is not prohibited by section 15.11. The species are grouped taxonomically by order, and may only be imported from the approved country, except as provided under a permit issued pursuant to subpart C of this part.

1 Note: Permits are still required for these species under part 17 (species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)) of this chapter.

17 (species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)) of this chapter.

Subpart B—Importation or Shipment of Injurious Wildlife

16.11 Importation of live wild mammals.
16.12 Importation of live wild birds or their eggs.
16.13 Importation of live or dead fish, mollusks, and crustaceans, or their eggs.
16.14 Importation of live amphibians or their eggs.
16.15 Importation of live reptiles or their eggs.

Subpart C—Permits

16.22 Injurious wildlife permits.

Subpart D—Additional Exemptions

16.32 Importation by Federal agencies.
16.33 Importation of natural-history specimens.

Authority: 18 U.S.C. 42.

Source: 39 FR 1169, Jan. 4, 1974, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Introduction

§ 16.1 Purpose of regulations.

The regulations contained in this part implement the Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. 42).

§ 16.2 Scope of regulations.

The provisions of this part are in addition to, and are not in lieu of, other regulations of this subchapter B which may require a permit or prescribe additional restrictions or conditions for the importation, exportation, and interstate transportation of wildlife (see also part 13).

§ 16.3 General restrictions.

Any importation or transportation of live wildlife or eggs thereof, or dead fish or eggs or salmonids of the fish
family Salmonidae into the United States or its territories or possessions is deemed to be injurious or potentially injurious to the health and welfare of human beings, to the interest of forestry, agriculture, and horticulture, and to the welfare and survival of the wildlife or wildlife resources of the United States; and any such importation into or the transportation of live wildlife or eggs thereof between the continental United States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any territory or possession of the United States by any means whatsoever, is prohibited except for certain purposes and under certain conditions as hereinafter provided in this part: Provided, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to psittacine birds (see also §§16.32 and 16.33 for other exemptions).

Subpart B—Importation or Shipment of Injurious Wildlife

§16.11 Importation of live wild mammals.
(a) The importation, transportation, or acquisition is prohibited of live specimens of: (1) Any species of so-called “flying fox” or fruit bat of the genus Pteropus; (2) any species of mongoose or meerkat of the genera Atilax, Cynictis, Helogale, Herpestes, Ichneumia, Mungos, and Suricata; (3) any species of European rabbit of the genus Oryctolagus; (4) any species of Indian wild dog, red dog, or dhole of the genus Cuon; (5) any species of multimammate rat or mouse of the genus Mastomys; and (6) any raccoon dog, Nyctereutes procyonoides: Provided, that the Director shall issue permits authorizing the importation, transportation, and possession of such mammals under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.
(b) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all other species of live wild mammals may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit, for scientific, medical, educational, exhibition, or propagating purposes, but no such live wild mammals or any progeny thereof may be released into the wild except by the State wildlife conservation agency having jurisdiction over the area of release or by persons having prior written permission for release from such agency: Provided, That the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to live game mammals from Mexico, the importation of which is governed by regulations under part 14 of this chapter.


§16.12 Importation of live wild birds or their eggs.
(a) The importation, transportation, or acquisition is prohibited of any live specimen or egg of (1) the species of so-called “pink starling” or “rosy pastor” Sturnus roseus; (2) the species of dioch (including the subspecies black-fronted, red-billed, or Sudan dioch) Quelea quelea; (3) any species of Java sparrow, Padda oryzivora; (4) the species of red-whiskered bulbul Pycnonotus jocosus: Provided, That the Director shall issue permits authorizing the importation, transportation, and possession of such live birds under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.
(b) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all other species of live wild game birds may be imported, transported, and possessed under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.
(c) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all species of live, wild nongame birds (other than those listed in paragraph (a) of this section) may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit,
§ 16.13 Importation of live or dead fish, mollusks, and crustaceans, or their eggs.

(a) Upon an exporter filing a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61 of this chapter, live or dead fish, mollusks, and crustaceans, or parts thereof, or their gametes or fertilized eggs, may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity without a permit except as follows:

(1) No such live fish, mollusks, crustacean, or any progeny or eggs thereof may be released into the wild except by the State wildlife conservation agency having jurisdiction over the area of release or by persons having prior written permission from such agency.

(2) The importation, transportation, or acquisition of any live fish or viable eggs of the walking catfish, family Clariidae; live mitten crabs, genus Eriocheir, or their viable eggs; and live mollusks, veligers, or viable eggs of zebra mussels, genus Dreissena, are prohibited except as provided under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.

(3) Notwithstanding §16.32, all Federal agencies shall be subject to the requirements stated within this section. Live or dead uneviscerated salmonid fish (family Salmonidae), live fertilized eggs, or gametes of salmonid fish are prohibited entry into the United States for any purpose except by direct shipment accompanied by a certification that: as defined in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, the fish lots, from which the shipments originated, have been sampled; virus assays have been conducted on the samples according to methods described in paragraphs (e)(2) through (4) of this section; and Oncorhynchus masou virus and the viruses causing viral hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious hematopoietic necrosis, and infectious pancreatic necrosis have not been detected in the fish stocks from which the samples were taken. In addition, live salmonid fish can be imported into the United States only upon written approval from the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(4) All live fish eggs of salmonid fish must be disinfected within 24 hours prior to shipment to the United States. Disinfection shall be accomplished by immersion for 15 minutes in a 75 part per million (titratable active iodine) non-detergent solution of polyvinylpyrrolidone iodine (iodophor) buffered to a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. Following disinfection, the eggs shall be rinsed and maintained in water free of fish pathogens until packed and shipped. Any ice or water used for shipping shall be from pathogen-free water.

(b)(1) The certification to accompany importations as required by this section shall consist of a statement in the English language, printed or typewritten, stating that this shipment of dead uneviscerated salmonid fish, live salmonid fish, or live, disinfected fertilized eggs or gametes of salmonid fish has been tested, by the methods outlined in this section, and none of the listed viruses were detected. The certification shall be signed in the country of origin by a qualified fish pathologist designated as a certifying official by the Director.

(2) The certification must contain:

(i) The date and port of export in the country of origin and the anticipated date of arrival in the United States and port of entry;

(ii) Surface vessel name or number or air carrier and flight number;
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(iii) Bill of lading number or airway bill number;

(iv) The date and location where fish, tissue, or fluid samples were collected;

(v) The date and location where virus assays were completed; and

(vi) The original handwritten signature, in ink, of the certifying official and his or her address and telephone number.

(3) Certification may be substantially in the following form:

I, , designated by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on (country), as required by Title 50, CFR 16.13, do hereby certify that the fish lot(s) of origin for this shipment of (weight in kilograms) dead unevacinated salmonid fish, live salmonid fish, live salmonid fish eggs disinfected as described in § 16.13, or live salmonid gametes to be shipped under (bill of lading number or airway bill number), were sampled at (location of fish facility) on (sampling date) and the required viral assays were completed on (date assays were completed) at (location where assays were conducted) using the methodology described in § 16.13. I further certify that the Oncorhynchus masou virus and the viruses causing viral hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious hematopoietic necrosis, and infectious pancreatic necrosis have not been detected in viral assays of the fish lot(s) of origin.

The shipment is scheduled to depart , (city and country) on (date), via (name of carrier) with anticipated arrival at the port of , U.S.A., on (date).

(Signature in ink of certifying official)

(Printed name of certifying official)

Date:

Organization employing certifying official:

Mailing address:

City:

State/Province:

Zip Code/Mail Code:

Country:

Office telephone number: International code

Telephone number

Fax number

(c) Nothing in this part shall restrict the importation and transportation of dead salmonid fish when such fish have been eviscerated (all internal organs removed, gills may remain) or filleted or when such fish or eggs have been processed by canning, pickling, smoking, or otherwise prepared in a manner whereby the Oncorhynchus masou virus and the viruses causing viral hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious hematopoietic necrosis, and infectious pancreatic necrosis have been killed.

(d) Any fish caught in the wild in North America under a valid sport or commercial fishing license shall be exempt from sampling and certification requirements and from filing the Declaration for Importation of Wildlife. The Director may enter into formal agreements allowing the importation of gametes, fertilized eggs, live fish, or dead, unevacinated fish without inspection and certification of pathogen status, if the exporting Nation has an acceptable program of inspection and pathogen control in operation, can document the occurrence and distribution of fish pathogens within its boundaries, and can demonstrate that importation of salmonid fishes into the United States from that Nation will not pose a substantial risk to the public and private fish stocks of the United States.

(e) Fish sampling requirements, sample processing, and methods for virus assays—(1) Fish sampling requirements. (i) Sampling for virus assays required by this section must be conducted within the six (6) months prior to the date of shipment of dead unevacinated salmonid fish, live salmonid fish, live salmonid eggs, or salmonid gametes to the United States. Sampling shall be on a lot-by-lot basis with the samples from each lot distinctively marked, maintained, and processed for virus assay separately. A fish lot is defined as a group of fish of the same species and age that originated from the same discrete spawning population and that always have shared a common water supply. In the case of adult broodstock, various age groups of the same fish species may be sampled as a single lot, provided they meet the other conditions previously stated and have shared the same container(s) for at least 1 year prior to the sampling date.

(ii) In a sample, or sub-sample of a given lot, collection of 10 or more moribund fish shall be given first preference. The remainder of fish required
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv., Interior § 16.13

for collection shall be randomly selected live fish from all containers occupied by the lot being sampled. Mortibund fish shall be collected and processed separately from randomly selected fish. In the event the sample is taken from adult broodstock of different ages that share the same container, first preference shall be given to collecting samples from the older fish.

(iii) The minimum sample numbers collected from each lot must be in accordance with a plan that provides 95 percent confidence that at least one fish, with a detectable level of infection, will be collected and will be present in the sample if the assumed minimum prevalence of infection equals or exceeds 2 percent. A total of 150 fish collected proportionately from among all containers shared by the lot usually meets this requirement. A sampling strategy based on a presumed pathogen prevalence of 5 percent (60 fish) may be used to meet sampling requirements for shipments of gametes, fertilized eggs, or uneviscerated dead fish; provided that in the previous 2 years no disease outbreaks caused by a pathogen of concern have occurred at the facility from which the shipment originated and all stocks held at the facility have been inspected at least four times during that period (at intervals of approximately 6 months) and no pathogens of concern detected.

(iv) Fish must be alive when collected and processed within 48 hours after collection. Tissue and fluid samples shall be stored in sealed, aseptic containers and kept at 4 °Celsius (C.) or on ice but not frozen.

(v) Tissue collection shall be as follows:

(A) Sac Fry and fry to 4 centimeter (cm): Assay entire fish. If present, remove the yolk sac.

(B) Fish 4–6 cm: Assay entire visceral mass including kidney.

(C) Fish longer than 6 cm: Assay kidney and spleen in approximately equal weight proportions.

(D) Spawning adult broodstock: Assay kidney and spleen tissues from males and/or females and ovarian fluid from females. Ovarian fluid may comprise up to 50 percent of the samples collected.

(2) General sample processing requirements. (i) Ovarian fluid samples shall be collected from each spawning female separately. All samples from individual fish shall be measured to ensure that similar quantities from each fish are combined if samples are pooled. Ovarian fluid samples from no more than five fish may be combined to form a pool.

(ii) Whole fry (less yolk sacs), viscera, and kidney and spleen tissues from no more than five fish may be similarly pooled.

(iii) Antibiotics and antifungal agents may be added to ovarian fluid or tissue samples to control microbial contaminant growth at the time of sample collection. Final concentrations shall not exceed 200–500 micrograms/milliliter (µg/ml) of Gentamycin, 800 international units/milliliter (IU/ml) of penicillin, or 800 µg/ml of streptomycin. Antifungal agent concentrations should not exceed 200 IU/ml of mycostatin (Nystatin) of 20 µg/ml of amphotericin B (Fungizone).

(iv) Sample temperature must be maintained between 4 at 15 °C. during processing. Use separate sets of sterile homogenization and processing equipment to process fluids or tissues from each fish lot sampled. Processing equipment need not be sterilized between samples within a single lot.

(v) Homogenized tissue samples may be diluted 1:10 with buffered cell culture medium (pH 7.4–7.8) containing antibiotics and antifungal agents not exceeding the concentrations described in paragraph (e)(2)(iii) of this section. Centrifuge tissue suspensions and ovarian fluid samples 4 °C. at 2,500 × gravity (g) (relative centrifugal force) for 15 minutes. Resulting supernatant solutions can be stored overnight at 4 °C.

(vi) At the time of inoculation onto cell cultures, total dilution of processed tissue samples must not exceed 1:100 ((volume to volume) (v/v)); total dilution of ovarian fluid samples must not exceed 1:20 (v/v). In samples inoculated onto cell cultures, the final antibiotic concentration shall not exceed 100 µg/ml of Gentamicin, 100 IU/ml of penicillin, or 100 µg/ml of streptomycin and antifungal agent concentrations should not exceed 25 IU/ml of
§ 16.14 Importation of live amphibians or their eggs.

Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all species of live amphibians or their eggs may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit, for scientific, medical, education, exhibition, or propagating purposes, but no such live amphibians or any progeny or eggs thereof may be released into the wild except by the State wildlife conservation agency having jurisdiction over the area of release or by persons having prior written permission for release from such agency.

§ 16.15 Importation of live reptiles or their eggs.

(a) The importation, transportation, or acquisition is prohibited of any live specimen or egg of the brown tree snake (Boiga irregularis): Provided, that the Director shall issue permits authorizing the importation, transportation, and possession of such live snakes or viable eggs under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.

(b) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all other species of live reptiles or their eggs may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit, for scientific, medical, educational, exhibitional or propagating purposes, but no such live reptiles or any progeny or eggs thereof may be released into the wild except by the State wildlife conservation agency

mycostatin (Nystatin) or 2.5 µ g/ml of amphotericin B (Fungizone).

(3) Cell culture procedures. (i) Both epithelioma papulosum cyprini (EPC) and chinook salmon embryo (CHSE–214) cell lines must be maintained and used in all virus assays. Susceptible, normal appearing, and rapidly dividing cell cultures shall be selected. Penicillin (100 IU/ml), streptomycin (100 µ g/ml), and antifungal agents, such as mycostatin/Nystatin (25 IU/ml) or amphotericin B/Fungizone (2.5 µ g/ml), are permitted in media used for cell culture and virus assay work.

(ii) Cell cultures shall be seeded and grown, at optimum temperatures, to 80–90 percent confluence in 24-well plates for virus assay work.

(iii) Decant the medium from the required number of 24-well plates of each cell line, and inoculate four replicate wells per cell line with .10 ml per well of each processed sample. When all wells have been inoculated, tilt plates to spread the inocula evenly. Incubate inoculated plates for 1 hour at 15° C. for sample contact. After the 1 hour contact add cell culture medium. Medium shall be buffered or cells incubated so that a pH between 7.4 and 7.8 is maintained. All cell culture assays shall be incubated, without overlays, at 15° C. for 21 days.

(4) Virus identification by serological methods. All cell cultures showing cytopathic effects (CPE) must be subcultured onto fresh cell cultures. If CPE is observed, determine the presence and identify the virus by serum neutralization, dot blot, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, or other equivalent serological technique.

(f) Information concerning the importation requirements of this section and application requirements for designation as a certifying official for purposes of this section may be obtained by contacting: U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Fish Hatcheries (320 Arlington Square), 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. Telephone 703–358–1878.

(g) The information collection requirements contained in this part have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. and assigned clearance number 1018–0078. The information is being collected to inform U.S. Customs and USFWS inspectors of the contents, origin, routing, and destination of fish and eggs shipments and to certify that the fish lots were inspected for listed pathogens. The information will be used to protect the health of the fishery resource. Response is required to obtain a benefit.

[58 FR 58979, Nov. 5, 1993, as amended at 65 FR 37063, June 13, 2000]
§ 16.22 Injurious wildlife permits.

The Director may, upon receipt of an application and in accordance with the issuance criteria of this section, issue a permit authorizing the importation into or shipment between the continental United States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any possession of the United States of injurious wildlife (See subpart B of this part) for zoological, educational, medical, or scientific purposes.

(a) Application requirements. Submit applications for permits to import, transport or acquire injurious wildlife for such purposes to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, (Attention: Office of Management Authority), 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, VA 22203. Submit applications in writing on a Federal Fish and Wildlife License/Permit application (Form 3–200) and attach all of the following information:

1. The number of specimens and the common and scientific names (genus and species) of each species of live wildlife proposed to be imported or otherwise acquired, transported and possessed;

2. The purpose of such importation or other acquisition, transportation and possession;

3. The address of the premises where such live wildlife will be kept in captivity;

4. A statement of the applicant’s qualifications and previous experience in caring for and handling captive wildlife.

(b) Additional permit conditions. In addition to the general conditions set forth in part 13 of this subchapter B, permits to import or ship injurious wildlife for zoological, educational, medical, or scientific purposes shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. All live wildlife acquired under permit and all progeny thereof, must be confined in the approved facilities on the premises authorized in the permit.

2. No live wildlife, acquired under permit, or any eggs or progeny thereof, may be sold, donated, traded, loaned, or transferred to any other person unless such person has a permit issued by the Director under §16.22 authorizing him to acquire and possess such wildlife or the eggs or progeny thereof.

3. Permittees shall notify the nearest Special Agent-in-Charge (see §10.22 of this chapter) by telephone or other expedient means within 24 hours following the escape of any wildlife imported or transported under authority of a permit issued under this section, or the escape of any progeny of such wildlife, unless otherwise specifically exempted by terms of the permit.

(c) Issuance criteria. The Director shall consider the following in determining whether to issue a permit to import or ship injurious wildlife for zoological, educational, medical, or scientific purposes:

1. Whether the wildlife is being imported or otherwise acquired for a bona fide scientific, medical, educational, or zoological exhibition purpose;

2. Whether the facilities for holding the wildlife in captivity have been inspected and approved, and consist of a basic cage or structure of a design and material adequate to prevent escape which is maintained inside a building or other facility of such structure that the wildlife could not escape from the building or other facility after escaping from the cage or structure maintained therein;

3. Whether the applicant is a responsible person who is aware of the potential dangers to public interests posed by such wildlife, and who by reason of his knowledge, experience, and facilities reasonably can be expected to provide adequate protection for such public interests; and

4. If such wildlife is to be imported or otherwise acquired for zoological or aquarium exhibition purposes, whether such exhibition or display will be open to the public during regular appropriate hours.

(d) The Office of Management and Budget approved the information collection requirements contained in this
§ 16.32 Importation by Federal agencies.

Nothing in this part shall restrict the importation and transportation, without a permit, of any live wildlife by Federal agencies solely for their own use, upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61: Provided, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to bald and golden eagles or their eggs, or to migratory birds or their eggs, the importations of which are governed by regulations under parts 22 and 21 of this chapter, respectively.

§ 16.33 Importation of natural-history specimens.

Nothing in this part shall restrict the importation and transportation, without a permit, of dead natural-history specimens of wildlife or their eggs for museum or scientific collection purposes: Provided, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to dead migratory birds, the importation of which is governed by regulations under parts 20 and 21 of this chapter; to dead game mammals from Mexico, the importation of which is governed by regulations under part 14 of this chapter; or to dead bald and golden eagles or their eggs, the importation of which is governed by regulations under part 22 of this chapter.

PART 17—ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS

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