

## Prohibitions and Restrictions concerning Endangered Species and Wildlife

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## 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](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 865/2006](#) laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild flora and fauna by regulating trade therein (also known as the implementing Regulation).

[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](mailto:customsriskunitgroup@revenue.ie)

Tel: 01-6744330

## 7. Additional Information

CITES website - <http://cites.org/>

CITES species database - <http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/species.html>

Irish CITES Management Authority mailbox – [cites@chg.gov.ie](mailto:cites@chg.gov.ie)

## 8. Contact Information

CITES Liaison Officer  
Prohibitions and Restrictions Unit  
Customs Division  
Email: [rcpr@revenue.ie](mailto: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](mailto:CITES@chg.gov.ie)  
Phone: 01-8883074

# ANNEX I

## Sample permit/certificate

EUROPEAN UNION								
ORIGINAL	1. Exporter/Re-exporter	<b>PERMIT/CERTIFICATE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IMPORT <input type="checkbox"/> EXPORT <input type="checkbox"/> RE-EXPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:	No					
	3. Importer	 <b>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora</b>						
	6. Authorized location for live specimens of Annex A species	4. Country of (re)-export	5. Country of import					
	7. Issuing Management Authority							
8. Description of specimens (incl. marks, sex/date of birth for live animals)	9. Net mass (kg)	10. Quantity						
	11. CITES Appendix	12. EU Annex	13. Source	14. Purpose				
	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  <input type="checkbox"/> has been surrendered to the issuing authority  <input type="checkbox"/> has to be surrendered to the border customs office of introduction  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>		25. The <input type="checkbox"/> importation <input type="checkbox"/> exportation <input type="checkbox"/> re-exportation of the goods described above is hereby permitted.  Signature and official stamp:  Name of issuing official:  Place and date of issue:						
26. Bill of Lading / Air Waybill Number:								
27. For customs use only		Signature and official stamp:						
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Quantity / net mass (kg) actually imported or (re)-exported</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Number of animals dead on arrival</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Quantity / net mass (kg) actually imported or (re)-exported	Number of animals dead on arrival			Customs document Type: Number: Date:		
Quantity / net mass (kg) actually imported or (re)-exported	Number of animals dead on arrival							

## ANNEX II

## Designated Customs Offices for CITES

Live Animals	Live Plants	Timber	Parts and Derivatives
<p>Dublin Airport (Registered Equidae ONLY)</p> <p>Shannon Airport (Registered Equidae and ungulates ONLY)</p> <p>NOTE: Other live animals must firstly be checked at another Member State prior to their arrival.</p>	<p>Dublin Airport</p> <p>Dublin Port</p>	<p>Cork Port</p> <p>Dublin Port</p> <p>Drogheda Port</p> <p>Dundalk Port</p> <p>Foynes Port</p> <p>Greenore Port</p> <p>Limerick Port</p> <p>Wicklow Port</p>	<p>Cork Airport</p> <p>Dublin Airport</p> <p>Shannon Airport</p> <p>Cork Port</p> <p>Dublin Port</p>