



State of Alaska  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Health  
Office of the State Veterinarian (OSV)  
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## State of Alaska Import Requirements March 2017

### BISON/CATTLE/YAKS

#### General Importation Requirements

1. **All bison, cattle, and yaks imported into Alaska must be accompanied by an Alaskan importation permit and health certificate.**
  - Both documents must be attached to the waybill for the animal and must accompany the animal at all times.
  - ***Exception:*** Animals intended for immediate slaughter (within 10 days of arrival) do not require a health certificate if the appropriate conditions are met (see note below for further information).
2. No animal may be imported that is affected with an infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, or is known to have been exposed to one in the last 30 days.
3. No animal may be imported that originates from a quarantine area as designated by another state, federal government, or foreign country.
4. Animals must be transported in a vehicle appropriate for the size and number of animals being transported, free of hazards that could injure the animals, and maintained in a sanitary condition.
5. ***Note that due to restructuring within USDA there may be new requirements for Animals traveling through Canada. Please contact the USDA Northern Border Ports Veterinarian, Dr. Paul Kohrs, by email at [paul.h.kohrs@usda.gov](mailto:paul.h.kohrs@usda.gov), or by phone Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm Pacific Time at (360) 998-5715. For after-hours emergencies call (360) 220-6392.***

### **Importation Permit Requirements**

1. Importation permit applications can be completed online by a veterinarian at: <http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/EH/ATS/index.html>
2. Permit is valid for 30 days after issuance and is non-transferable.
3. A single permit may be obtained for multiple animals of the same class.
4. Application must include:
  - (1) Name, address, and contact information of the person who is importing the animal, and for the person who will be responsible for the animal in Alaska;
  - (2) Physical address or point of origin of the shipment;
  - (3) Physical address of the destination of the shipment; and
  - (4) Results of required diagnostic tests.
5. Alaskan Importation permit must be affixed to, or the permit number written on the health certificate and identified on any other official document as "Alaska Permit No. \_\_\_\_."

### **Health Certificate/Certificate of Veterinary Inspection Requirements**

1. Health certificates can be obtained from any licensed and accredited veterinarian in the state or country of origin; one copy of the certificate must be provided to the Alaska State Veterinarian.
2. Valid for 30 days after issuance.
3. Certification must include:
  - (1) Name, address, and contact information of the person who is importing the animal, and for the person who will be responsible for the animal in Alaska;
  - (2) Physical address or point of origin of the shipment;
  - (3) Physical address of the destination of the shipment;
  - (4) Age, sex, breed, color, and markings of each animal;
  - (5) Official identification for each animal;
  - (6) Dates and records of required tests or vaccinations;
  - (7) Certification that each animal:**
    - i. Is free from evidence of, or known recent exposure to, infectious, contagious, or communicable diseases;
    - ii. Is free of ectoparasites, or has been treated with an approved product within 10 days of import;
    - iii. Originates from a herd that is from an area designated by the USDA as brucellosis and tuberculosis free, **OR** is from a designated brucellosis surveillance area and:

1. Has a negative brucellosis test within 30 days of import;
  2. Note: After arrival, any animal may be retested for brucellosis and/or tuberculosis at the discretion of the State Veterinarian, and kept in isolation 45 - 120 days.
  - iv. Has a negative anaplasmosis and bluetongue test within 60 days of import, unless under 6 months of age; and
  - v. Bulls over 18 months of age must have a negative trichomoniasis test within 60 days of import.
- (8) Date and place of examination; and
- (9) Name, contact information, and signature of the certifying veterinarian.

Animals intended for **immediate slaughter** do not require a health certificate if:

1. An import permit accompanies the shipment;
2. The waybill that accompanies the shipment states the animal is for immediate slaughter;
3. The animal is kept in an official USDA-approved, federally-inspected slaughterhouse; and
4. The animal will be slaughtered within 10 days, or an exception is granted by the State Veterinarian.

**If the above conditions are not met, or it is determined to serve the interests of animal or public health, the State Veterinarian may order an animal quarantined at the owner's expense until such time as it is released from quarantine, euthanized, slaughtered, or destroyed.**

#### **Requirements for Importation of Animals Originating in Canada**

1. All State of Alaska import requirements must be met, as described above.
2. A USDA Entry Permit issued by the National Center for Import/Export (NCIE) must be obtained: [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/importexport\\_VS-Live.Animals\\_Import.Permits@aphis.usda.gov](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/importexport_VS-Live.Animals_Import.Permits@aphis.usda.gov), or (301) 851-3300.
3. Animals must be kept isolated at the destination until they are checked post-entry by the Alaska USDA APHIS Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO). It is the responsibility of the owner to contact the USDA to arrange for an inspection.  
 Dr. Paul Kohrs, DVM  
 USDA Port Veterinarian  
 (360) 988-5715 (office) (Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm Pacific Time)  
 (360) 220-6392 (cell) (after-hours emergencies only)  
 (360) 988-4301 (FAX)  
[paul.h.kohrs@usda.gov](mailto:paul.h.kohrs@usda.gov)
4. Resources for additional information regarding the import of animals into the United States:
  - a. The USDA Port Veterinarian (contact information listed above).
  - b. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency: 1-800-442-2342 or 1-855-212-7695

- c. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Import Export: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/importexport> or [VS-Live.Animals\\_Import.Permits@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:VS-Live.Animals_Import.Permits@aphis.usda.gov)
- d. Customs and Border Protection (to determine if a broker is required for the shipment): <https://www.cbp.gov/contact/ports/alcan> or (907) 774-2252.