

## Where do I obtain CITES permits and certificates?

### Foreign permits:

If you purchase a CITES listed species or product in another country, you must obtain the required CITES export permit or certificate from that country's government. Remember that, if the species is listed under Appendix I, you will also require a CITES import permit from Canada **in advance**.



### Canadian import permits:

Canadian CITES import permits for all Appendix I listed species are issued by the CITES Permits Office in Environment Canada's headquarters office.

### Canadian export permits:

Export permits for most species are available from provincial or territorial wildlife departments or, for residents of Alberta, Environment Canada's headquarters office. Export permits for artificially propagated plants may be obtained from Environment Canada's headquarters office, and, when from species indigenous to Quebec, to the Quebec Ministère de l'Environnement. Permits for fish and marine mammals are available from Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

### Are there other permits I might require?

Yes. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulations apply to many animals and plants and their products.

Contact a CFIA Import Service Centre for information or their web site at (<http://www.cfia-acia.agr.ca/>)

Grizzly Bear



Bear Parts



## Remember:

If an animal or plant is listed by CITES, then that includes not only live specimens, but **any** part or product derived from the species.

Before you purchase an animal, plant or product, be sure you know what rules and regulations apply.

The retailer selling the species or product may be very eager to make the sale, and may not provide accurate information about the item. Exercise caution when making your purchases.

Obtain all necessary permits **before** importing or exporting the species or product.

**Please contact Environment Canada for additional information concerning permits and permit exemptions.**

Help conservation by refusing to purchase illegal wildlife and their products. Removing the market is the most effective way to stop the illegal trade.

If you import or export species regulated by CITES, or products labelled as such, without the necessary permits, you risk losing your purchase, and may be subject to prosecution.

## When in doubt don't buy it!

## For more information, contact Environment Canada offices at:

### Pacific & Yukon Region

Environment Canada  
Wildlife Enforcement Section  
224 W Esplanade, 5th Floor  
North Vancouver, BC V7M 3H7  
Telephone: (604) 666-5892 Fax: (604) 666-0048

### Prairie & Northern Region

Environment Canada  
115 Perimeter Road  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X4  
Telephone: (306) 975-4799 Fax: (306) 975-6061

### Ontario Region

Environment Canada  
Wildlife Enforcement Division  
P.O. Box 5050  
867 Lakeshore Road  
Burlington, ON L7R 4A6  
Telephone: (905) 336-6410 Fax: (905) 336-4633

### Quebec Region

Environment Canada  
105 McGill Street, 4th Floor  
Montreal, QC H2Y 2E7  
Telephone: 1 800 463-4311 Fax: (514) 283-4113

### Atlantic Region

Environment Canada  
17 Waterfowl Lane  
P.O. Box 6227  
Sackville, NB E4L 1G6  
Telephone: (506) 364-5044 Fax: (506) 364-5062

### Headquarters

Environment Canada  
CITES Permits Office  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0H3  
Telephone: (819) 997-1840 or 1 800 668-6767 Fax: (819) 953-6283

Web site for CITES information: [www.cites.ec.gc.ca](http://www.cites.ec.gc.ca)

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cover photos:  
top: Siberian tiger  
bottom left: military macaw  
bottom right: poison arrow frog



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# Endangered Species and the Traveller



## Going abroad?

### ...avoid contributing to the illegal trade in endangered species.

Many species of animals and plants are in danger of extinction because of excessive hunting and commercial exploitation.

If you are travelling out of Canada, you may be tempted to purchase wildlife products or even live animals or plants. Be careful not to purchase items you cannot legally bring back to Canada.



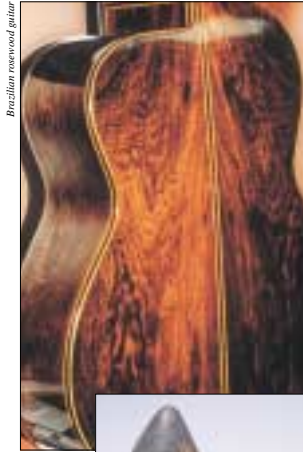
The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement that protects species of animals and plants that are or may be threatened with extinction by regulating their international trade.

Since 1973, more than 150 countries, including Canada, have signed the CITES agreement. These countries are working together to protect thousands of the world's most threatened species.

In Canada, CITES is administered by Environment Canada and implemented under the *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act* (WAPPRITA).

### How does CITES work?

CITES operates through an import/export permit system that is stricter for more threatened species. Animals and plants that require protection are classified into one of three appendices:



Brazilian rosewood guitar



Rhino horn pills



American ginseng root

### Appendix I

Appendix I species are threatened with extinction and their trade is severely restricted. Before you may import or export an Appendix I species or product, you must have **both** a CITES export permit from the country the item is coming from, **and** a CITES import permit from the country into which you are importing the item. Trade for primarily commercial purposes is prohibited.

**Examples: all lemurs, apes and many monkeys, most whales and rhinoceroses, many bears, many cats, most elephants, many hawks and eagles, many pheasants, parrots, turtles and tortoises, all sea turtles, most crocodiles ...and many more.**

### Appendix II

Species listed under Appendix II are not considered threatened with extinction at present but they may become so if their trade is not regulated. Many of these species are under intense pressure from hunters and collectors. Before you import or export an Appendix II species or product, you may require a CITES export permit from the country of export. You may be eligible for a permit exemption under certain circumstances for personal and household effects. Contact Environment Canada for details.

**Examples:** American ginseng, flamingos, hummingbirds, corals, chameleons, queen conchs, tegu lizards, and all monkeys, whales, dolphins, bears, cats (except domestic), wolves, hawks, eagles, owls, parrots, tortoises, crocodiles, pythons, iguana and monitor lizards, bird-wing butterflies, cacti and orchids that are not **already listed under Appendix I**, ...and many more.

### Appendix III

Appendix III species are also not considered threatened with extinction, but are under special management in certain specific countries. A CITES export permit may be required to export an Appendix III species or product from the listed country and a CITES certificate of origin may be required for re-export. Contact Environment Canada for details.

#### Examples:

Water buffalo (*Nepal*)  
Kinkajou (*Honduras*)  
Rock dove (*Ghana*)  
Russell's Viper (*India*)  
Walrus (*Canada*)

elephant ivory jewelry



marine turtle products



## Am I eligible for Canada's CITES Permit Exemptions for Personal and Household Effects?

You may be if:

- you owned and possessed the item in your ordinary country of residence and are taking it out of that country temporarily as part of your clothing, accessories or in your accompanying baggage for your personal use or as part of a household move;
- you purchased a tourist souvenir made from an Appendix II or Appendix III species and are bringing it back with you to Canada for your personal use;
- you are visiting Canada and purchase Appendix II or Appendix III souvenirs to take home with you or you are transiting Canada with souvenirs (Appendix II or Appendix III) purchased in another country.

To be exempt, CITES souvenirs or personal effects must be with you in your accompanying baggage or as part of your clothing or accessories.

All live animals, including personal pets, are not eligible and must always be accompanied by the required CITES permits. Live plants, live animals and Appendix I species are not included in the CITES permit exemption for tourist souvenirs and still require CITES permits.



cactus

Other conditions also apply for Canadian species at risk.



scarlet macaw

