

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



Secretary of State
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Name of Department Legal Division

Agency or Division Name Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

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Name of Rule F1.04 Wildlife Importation Permit Requirements

Newspaper Name Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Date of Publishing March 22, 23, and 24, 2020 and April 19, 20, and 21, 2020

Final Date for Public Comment May 21, 2020

Location and Time of Public Meeting AGFC Auditorium, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock AR 72205,
at 10:00 a.m.

F1.04 Wildlife Importation Permit Requirements

A. Eligibility and Application Requirements:

1. The applicant must be at least 18 years old and shall not have been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere for, violating any federal, state or municipal law governing captive wildlife, illegal appropriation or commercialization of wildlife, or cruelty to animals within five years of the application date.
2. The applicant shall submit a written application (available from the Commission) for each facility to be permitted.

B. The requested permit shall be denied if:

1. The applicant fails to meet any of the issuance criteria set forth in this addendum chapter;
2. The applicant fails to disclose material information required, makes false statements as to any material fact in connection with the application, or supplies false information or makes a false statement on the application;
3. The Commission finds, through further inquiry or investigation, the issuance of the permit may be potentially harmful to the wildlife resources of the State.

C. Permit Requirements:

1. Wildlife Importation Permit holders may import wildlife into or transport wildlife through the State under the following conditions provided that, prior to transportation, the permit holder possesses the following documentation:
 - i. Written proof of the origin and destination of each animal.
 - ii. Documentation for each animal to demonstrate they have not been kept in, or originated from, a location from which importation has been restricted in accordance with Code 09.11.
 - iii. A completed state or federal certificate of veterinary inspection form upon which an accredited veterinarian has certified each animal to be free of diseases/parasites or provision of proof that birds originated from a flock that is part of the National Poultry Improvement Program. Animals other than cervids originating within Arkansas and that are taken from the state for less than 30 days may re-enter the state without the need for a veterinary exam.
 - iv. Venomous reptiles being temporarily imported into the state for the purpose of exhibition must comply with caging requirements in Code Addendum F1.08(C).
2. The Wildlife Importation Permit and issued documentation required in Addendum F1.04(C)(1) must accompany each animal during transport.
 - i. All documentation required in Addendum F1.04(C)(1) shall be submitted by the permit holder to the Commission's Wildlife Management Division within 7 days of the permitted importation.
 - ii. Failure to comply may result in suspension or revocation of any existing permit held by the violator and denial of any future permits. Additionally, criminal charges may be filed.

D. Disease Testing:

1. Prior to importation, brindled gnu (*Connochaetes taurine*) must test negative for Alcelaphine herpesvirus-1 by virus neutralization, or other serologic test as recommended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory, within 30 days of import and evidence of such testing must be documented in accordance with F1.04(c)1.