

# REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTATION OF DOMESTICATED ELK INTO UTAH

The consignor must first complete the Utah Domesticated Elk Import Application and forward to the governing agency in the consignor's state or province. The governing agency is responsible for validation of all information and compiling the necessary herd records and then returning the application to the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Division of Animal Industries for consideration. The consignor should move forward with the required testing only after the herd has been approved for import.

All testing documents and a preliminary copy of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) must be submitted to the UDAF Division of Animal Industries for review. An import permit will be issued to an accredited veterinarian once approved. If you have questions regarding the import procedure or requirements, please email Dr. Dustin Durfee [ddurfee@utah.gov](mailto:ddurfee@utah.gov) or contact by phone (801) 538-4910.

## Import Requirements

### CWD Requirements

- All domesticated elk must originate from state or province which has implemented a verified CWD surveillance program. Domesticated elk will only be allowed to enter Utah from herds that have been actively participating in a verified National CWD Herd Certification Program for at least sixty (60) months and have a certified CWD free status issued by the animal health official from the state or province of origin.
- Domesticated elk that originate or have ever been in the CWD endemic portions of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota or Wyoming are NOT permitted to enter Utah.
- A letter must be provided from the administering agency which verifies the herd status for CWD testing, including:
  - Herd Identification
  - Current herd size and inventory
  - CWD enrollment date
  - Number of deaths since enrollment
  - Number of elk slaughtered or hunted since enrollment
  - Number of laboratory reports of CWD testing including prior enrollment
  - Source herds from which elk have been imported for the previous 5 years (Elk Movement Report), and dates of additions to the herd
- No domesticated elk originating from a CWD affected herd, trace-back or trace-forward herd may enter Utah.

## **Brucellosis Testing Requirements**

- All cervidae six (6) months of age or older must have two negative Brucellosis tests from a single blood sample within 30 days prior to entry. Utah requires the Buffered Acidified Plate Antigen (BAPA) and Fluorescent Polarization Assay (FPA) tests. For questions regarding Brucellosis certified free herds and Brucellosis class free states please contact the Division of Animal Industries. If during testing an animal is non-negative to the FPA test the non-negative animal must test negative to a CF test. Protocol for the Importation of Farmed Cervids from Canada can be found here [Importation of Cervids Canada Jan 2018](#)

## **Tuberculosis Testing Requirements**

All cervidae imports must comply with the provisions of the “Uniform Methods and Rules-Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication” and [Title 9, Part 77 of the CFR](#). More information is also available here: [USDA APHIS Bovine Tuberculosis in Cervids](#)

- Two negative tuberculosis tests conducted not less than 90 days apart except elk under six (6) months of age accompanied by a negative testing dam, or elk originating from an accredited, qualified, or monitored herd, in which case a single negative test within 60 days of entry into the state is acceptable.

Please contact the Division of Animal Industries to determine the tuberculosis testing requirements for your specific herd.

## **Parasite and Other Preventative Requirements**

No domesticated elk which have ever been east of the 100<sup>th</sup> meridian may enter Utah.

- All animals must receive an anthelmintic, approved for the treatment of *Parelaphostrongylus Tenuis*, within 30 days prior to import (unless the cervids are consigned directly to an approved slaughter establishment). The CVI must contain the following statement: “No cervids identified on this certificate of veterinary inspection have displayed symptoms consistent with *P. tenuis* infection. These cervids have neither been exposed to *P. tenuis* or originated from a premises where *P. tenuis* has been identified.”
- The following signed statement must appear on the CVI: “To the best of my knowledge the captive cervids listed herein are not infected with Johne’s disease (paratuberculosis), Chronic Wasting Disease, or Malignant Catarrhal Fever and have never been east of the 100 degree meridian.”

### **Proof of Ownership and Identification**

- ❑ Each individual animal must be identified with two (2) forms of identification. At least one form of identification must be official and can either be an RFID tag, USDA metal or official identification for the state or province of origin before being shipped to Utah. Each individual animal must also be marked with a uniquely numbered visual form of identification such as a ranch or dangle tag. In addition, a paper, which details each individual animal and corresponding identification must accompany the shipment. This can be a:
  - Brand Inspection Certificate
  - Notarized bill of sale
  - CVI or official Health Certificate
  - Bill of Consignment

### **Genetic Purity**

- ❑ All domesticated elk entering Utah must have a negative test for red deer genetic factor (RDGF). Animals will be exempt from testing if they are registered with the North American Elk Breeders Association (NAEBA) or are originating from a state that has a recognized RDGF prevention program.
  - Test charts from an approved laboratory that have either a blood genetic purity test or DNA genetic purity test
  - Registration papers from NAEBA
  - Herd purity certification papers issued by another state agency or province.
- ❑ Genetic purity certification of donors is required for all semen, gametes, eggs or embryos imported into Utah.

### **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection**

- ❑ All domestic cervidae must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) verifying that they have been inspected within 30 days prior to the date of shipment.
- ❑ All cervidae imports require an import permit number issued by the Division of Animal Industries.

An entry permit must be obtained prior to issuing a health certificate by calling (801) 538-4910. The permit number will be issued to an accredited veterinarian and must be written on the CVI.