

HOW TO IMPORT LIVE AQUATIC ANIMALS INTO UTAH

Utah Department of Agriculture & Food

350 N Redwood Road

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

801 538 7029

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Authority for importation of aquatic animals is given through Utah Agriculture Code 4-37 and Aquaculture and Aquatic Animal Health Rule R58-17 as follows:

<http://ag.utah.gov/animind/R058-017.pdf>

http://www.le.state.ut.us/~code/TITLE04/04_22.htm

The following steps are followed to obtain an entry permit from the Utah Department of Agriculture & Food (UDAF) Fish Health Program. UDAF currently issues entry permits at no charge.

1. Call the secretary of the UDAF Fish Health Program (801 538 7029) and request an entry permit. The secretary will obtain information from you.

2. If you are a fish grower living in Utah, then the secretary will obtain your current certificate of registration (COR) number. If you live outside Utah, the UDAF secretary will check the Fish Health Approval List to determine if your station is currently approved. If your station is not on the list and the fish to be imported are warm- or cool water species, complete the appropriate form and its requirements and forward them to the UDAF. The forms may be obtained from the UDAF secretary or from the following:

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_warmwater_national.pdf

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_warmwater_internatl.pdf

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_crustacean_import.pdf

3. If the fish to be imported are coldwater species, your facility is located out of Utah and is approved by UDAF, the secretary will ask for your name, number of fish or eggs to be imported, size (inches & age), total poundage, name of the source or originating facility, name of transporter, anticipated shipping date, and other relevant information.

4. The following are accomplished by UDAF or the importer prior to entry permit issuance.

4.1 If the fish are cold water (salmonids) and the source and destination are currently approved and/or licensed, UDAF completes, signs, and issues the entry permit, normally without delay.

4.2 If the fish are warm or cool water species and the source and destination are currently approved and/or licensed, UDAF may request additional information such as names of salmonids and other fish that occupy the water supply to the fish to be imported, etc. In addition, UDAF requests that the importer complete one or more of the below documents. If information supplied in the below documents suggests that the importation may harm Utah native or commercial resources, then the entry permit may be delayed or denied

4.2a. Triploid verification (for grass carp only) (obtainable from the US Fish & Wildlife Service);

4.2b. Treatment or testing notice (for species susceptible to the Asian tapeworm)

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_astp-treatment.pdf

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_astp-policy.pdf

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_astp-hosts.pdf

4.2c. The latest inspection report (done within previous 12 months and obtained from the importer or manager of the facility holding the aquatic animals to be imported);

4.2d. Notice of distribution or treatment of aquatic nuisance species

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_zebra_mussel.pdf

4.2e. Health Statement (R58-17-15 C3b) completed within 30 days of the anticipated date of entry:

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_fish_health_stmt.pdf

4.3 If the facility has not yet been approved for fish importation into Utah or the annual approval has lapsed, UDAF will obtain the necessary information to initiate the approval process.

4.4 If the entry permit is for international shipments, a certificate of veterinary inspection from the source is obtained by the importer indicating a negative record of testing by OIE reference labs for prohibited pathogens Utah and OIE-listed pathogens, and information on nuisance species in the water source. Also, written authorization from the USDA, APHIS for the importation must be included.

5. The UDAF secretary attaches the appropriate completed documents in section 4.2 above to the entry permit. The secretary includes a blank copy of the Livestock and Fish Movement Report form (UL&FMR).

http://ag.utah.gov/animind/aq_fishmove.pdf

Fish operators who import fish into Utah by vehicle are required to stop at Utah Ports of Entry upon entering Utah and show their completed UL&FMR form. Persons who import fish into Utah by airplane are also required to complete the UL&FMR form and present it at the customs office at the airport or mail or FAX it to UDAF. For drivers transporting the fish into Utah, the completed UL&FMR form can be presented at the port of entry or mailed to UDAF. All transport vehicles importing aquatic animals into Utah or transported through Utah must possess proper documentation and approval (R58-17-13(I)) and are subject to inspection. Port of entry and customs officers forward the completed UL&FMR to the UDAF for review by UDAF. It is our intent to prevent the entry of any diseased aquatic animals into the State of Utah.

6. After the entry permit is signed, it is either faxed or mailed to the importer with completed documents in section 4.2, all of which are to accompany the aquatic animals during shipment. The entry permit is usually good for 30 days, but this time may be extended upon request.

After all necessary paperwork is received, every effort is made by UDAF to complete the entry permit in one work day. By statute, UDAF has up to 2 weeks to issue the entry permit (R58-17-13 B).

If strong evidence comes to light, following the issuance and before the completion of the transport proposed on an entry permit, indicating that permitting the importation may harm Utah native or commercial resources, the entry permit may be revoked.

Any violation of or failure to comply with any provision or requirement contained in an entry permit may be grounds for issuance of citations, levying fines, and revocation of future permits (R58-17-3).