



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Heritage

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

EXPORTING OF MARINE WILDLIFE OR WILDLIFE PRODUCTS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

Exporters should be aware that the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) has provisions that regulate the export of wildlife. Under this legislation marine products sourced from fisheries are either exempt from export controls, require an export permit, or cannot be exported, depending on the outcome of an assessment¹ of the fishery from which the product is sourced.

The following website contains a list of the species currently exempt from export controls, <http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use/lists/exempt/index.html>. All other species will require an export permit.

Permits can only be issued for export of marine product sourced from a wildlife program approved under the EPBC Act, such as a captive breeding program, artificial propagation program, aquaculture program or wildlife trade operation. For further information on gaining approval under the EPBC Act for a wildlife program please refer to <http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use/sources/index.html> or contact the Sustainable Fisheries Section.

Permit application forms are available from the Department of Environment and Heritage's International Wildlife Trade Section (Phone 02-6274 1900) or from <http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use/permits/forms/marine.html>. When completing the application you should attach proof of the legal acquisition of the specimen. This means you should attach a copy of the State/Commonwealth collection permit or the appropriate receipts for the purchase of the product.

The permit application form mentions the exporting of live animals and completing a supplementary form for such exports. Please note that this does not apply to marine species.

You may apply for a multiple-use permit or a single use permit. Multiple-use permits allow for an unlimited number of exports of specimens within the period for which the permit is issued. Multiple-use permits cost \$75 for every six (6) month period for which they are issued, and can be issued for up to 3 years. Single-use permits are issued for single export shipments only. These cost \$30 per permit.

¹ Information sheets on fisheries assessments are available from the Sustainable Fisheries Section

As Australia is a member country of CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), if you are planning to export a CITES Appendix II listed species, you will need to apply for a single-use permit which is valid for a period of six months. To determine if your product is a CITES listed specimen contact the Sustainable Fisheries Section or check the list at <http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use/lists/cites/index.html>.

Permits come into force on the date on which they are issued and carry with them a number of conditions to be complied with by the exporter. Examples of conditions include:

- Exports may only be made by the Company that has been issued with the permit;
- Failure to comply with any conditions may result in the permit being cancelled;
- Permit holders must maintain records on quantities and the source of product being exported, and relevant Quarantine forms;
- Permits are issued for the export of a certain species or product from a fishery in accordance with the export declaration for that fishery;
- Harvesting to be carried out in accordance with conditions stipulated on relevant State licences; and
- This permit does not authorise the export of CITES listed species or eligible listed threatened species under the EPBC Act.

Exports of marine species or products from marine species may also require clearance from the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS). Please contact AQIS on freecall 1800 020 504 or in your State or Territory for information on quarantine controls.

Contact Details

For further information contact the Sustainable Fisheries Section

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| Postal Address | <i>Sustainable Fisheries Section</i> Department of the Environment and Heritage GPO Box 787 CANBERRA ACT 2601 | Phone | (02) 6274 1917 |
| | | Fax | (02) 6274 1006 |
| | | Email | sustainable.fisheries@deh.gov.au |

Or for the International Wildlife Trade Section

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|-----------------------|---|--------------|--------------------------|
| Postal Address | <i>International Wildlife Trade Section</i> Department of the Environment and Heritage GPO Box 787 CANBERRA ACT 2601 | Phone | (02) 6274 1900 |
| | | Email | wildlifetrade@deh.gov.au |