

R12-4-430. Importation, Handling, and Possession of Cervids

- A. For the purposes of this Section, the following definitions apply:
1. "Native cervid" means any member of the deer family in the genus *Alces*, common name moose; the genus *Odocoileus*, common name white-tailed and mule deer; or the genus *Cervus*, common name red deer, wapiti, and elk; or the genus *Rangifer*, common name reindeer and caribou.
 2. "Wildlife disease" means a disease that poses a health risk to wildlife in Arizona.
 3. "Zoo" means any facility licensed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department under R12-4-420.
- B. Except as provided in R12-4-418, upon the effective date of this Section, no new special licenses will be issued for live cervids.
- C. An individual, including any special license holder, shall not import a live cervid into Arizona except as allowed in subsection (K).
- D. Except as allowed under subsection (L), an individual shall not transport a live cervid within Arizona except to:
1. Export the live cervid from Arizona for a lawful purpose;
 2. Transport the live cervid to a facility for the purpose of slaughter, when the slaughter will take place within five days of the date of transport;
 3. Transport the live cervid to or from a licensed veterinarian for medical care; or
 4. Transport the live cervid to a new holding facility owned by, or under the control of, the cervid owner, when all of the following apply:
 - a. The current holding facility has been sold or closed;
 - b. Ownership, possession, custody, or control of the cervid will not be transferred to another individual; and
 - c. The owner of the cervid has prior written approval from the Director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.
- E. An individual who lawfully possesses a live cervid held in captivity on the effective date of this Section, except any cervid held under a private game farm, wildlife holding, or zoo license, shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this Section, provide the Department with a written report that contains the following:
1. Name, address, and telephone number of the person possessing the live cervid;
 2. Number, genus, and species of any live cervid held; and
 3. Location where the live cervid is held.
- F. An individual who lawfully possesses a live cervid held in captivity on the effective date of this Section, except any cervid held under a private game farm, wildlife holding, or zoo license, may continue to possess the live cervid and shall only dispose of the live cervid by the following methods:
1. Exportation,
 2. Euthanasia, or
 3. As otherwise directed by the Department.
- G. An individual who lawfully possesses a live cervid under a private game farm, wildlife holding, or zoo license shall not move, or allow another to move, the cervid from the premises of the game farm, wildlife holding facility, or zoo except to:
1. Export the live cervid from Arizona for a lawful purpose,
 2. Transport the live cervid to a facility for the purpose of slaughter, or
 3. Transport the live cervid to or from a licensed veterinarian for medical care.
- H. In addition to the recordkeeping requirements of R12-4-413, R12-4-417, and R12-4-420, an individual who possesses a live native cervid under a private game farm, wildlife holding, or zoo license on the effective date of this Section, and subsequent to the effective date of this Section for progeny, shall:
1. Permanently mark each live native cervid with either an individually identifiable microchip or tattoo within 30 days of the effective date of this Section;
 2. Permanently mark the progeny of each live native cervid with either an individually identifiable microchip or tattoo; and
 3. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Section, and annually by December 15, provide the Department with a report listing the following for each live native cervid in the licensee's possession:
 - a. Name of the license holder,
 - b. License holder's address and telephone number,
 - c. Number and species of live native cervids held,
 - d. The microchip or tattoo number of each live native cervid held, and
 - e. The disposition of all native cervids that were moved or that died in the six months before the effective date of this Section or during the current reporting period.
- I. The holder of a private game farm, wildlife holding, or zoo license shall ensure that the head of a native cervid that dies while held under the special licenses (except a native cervid that is slaughtered as allowed under this Section, R12-4-413, R12-4-417, and R12-4-420) is submitted within 72 hours of the time of death to the University of Arizona Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory for chronic wasting disease analysis. The licensee shall ensure that the shipment of the deceased animal's head is made by a common, private, or contract carrier that utilizes a tracking number system to track the shipment. The Arizona Game and Fish Department shall pay for the cost of the

laboratory analysis. The holder of a private game farm, wildlife holding, or zoo license shall include the following information with the shipment of the deceased animal's head:

1. Name of the license holder,
 2. License holder's address, and
 3. License holder's telephone number.
- J. If a zoonotic or wildlife disease, as determined by a person with relevant wildlife disease expertise, exists in any facility or on property holding cervids, and the zoonotic or wildlife disease poses an immediate threat to wildlife or humans, including those animals held under special license, the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Director shall order the immediate quarantine of all wildlife held at the facility or on the property. The Director may suspend the provisions of any applicable special license and order the humane disposition of any affected animal based on an assessment of the threat to public or wildlife health, safety, or welfare. An individual who possesses a cervid where an identified zoonotic or wildlife health risk exists shall, as ordered by the Director, quarantine the wildlife, test the wildlife for disease, submit a biological sample to the Department or its designee, and, if necessary, destroy and dispose of the wildlife as directed by the Department.
- K. A holder of a zoo license may import any live cervid, except a native cervid, for exhibit, educational display, or propagation only if the cervid is quarantined for 30 days upon arrival, and the cervid is procured from a facility that complies with the following requirements:
1. The exporting facility has no history of chronic wasting disease or other diseases that pose a serious health risk to wildlife or humans, and there is accompanying documentation from the facility certifying that there is no history of disease at the facility;
 2. The cervid is accompanied by a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in the jurisdiction of origin, and the health certificate is issued within 30 days of import; and
 3. The cervid is accompanied by evidence of lawful possession as defined in R12-4-401.
- L. A holder of a zoo license may transport within Arizona any live cervid, except a native cervid, for the purpose of procurement or propagation only if the cervid is quarantined for 30 days upon arrival at its destination, and only if the cervid is procured from a facility that complies with the following requirements:
1. The originating facility has no history of chronic wasting disease or other diseases that pose a serious health risk to wildlife or humans, and there is accompanying documentation from the facility certifying that there is no history of disease at the facility;
 2. The cervid is accompanied by a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in the jurisdiction of origin, and the health certificate is issued within 30 days of transport; and
 3. The cervid is accompanied by evidence of lawful possession as defined in R12-4-401.
- M. An individual who possesses a cervid shall comply with all procedures for tuberculosis control and eradication for cervids prescribed in the USDA publication "Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication - Uniform Methods and Rules," USDA APHIS 91-45-011, effective January 22, 1999. This material is incorporated by reference in this Section but does not include any later amendments or editions. A copy is on file with the Secretary of State and is available from any Department office, or it may be ordered from the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, Cattle Disease and Surveillance Staff, P. O. Box 96464, Washington D.C. 20090-6464.
- N. An individual who possesses a cervid shall comply with the procedures for the prevention, control, and eradication of Brucellosis in cervids as prescribed in the United States Department of Agriculture publication "Brucellosis in Cervidae: Uniform Methods and Rules" U.S.D.A. A.P.H.I.S. 91-45-12, effective September 30, 1998, revised effective May 14, 1999. This material is incorporated by reference in this Section but does not include any later amendments or editions. A copy is on file with the Secretary of State and is available from any Department office, or it may be ordered from the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, Cattle Disease and Surveillance Staff, P. O. Box 96464, Washington D.C. 20090-6464.
- O. An individual who possesses a cervid shall comply with the procedures for the prevention, control, and eradication of Brucellosis in cervids as prescribed in the United States Department of Agriculture publication "Brucellosis Eradication: Uniform Methods and Rules" U.S.D.A. A.P.H.I.S. 91-45-11, effective February 1, 1998. This material is incorporated by reference in this Section but does not include any later amendments or editions. A copy is on file with the Secretary of State and is available from any Department office, or it may be ordered from the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, Cattle Disease and Surveillance Staff, P. O. Box 96464, Washington D.C. 20090-6464.
- P. The Department has the authority to seize, destroy, and dispose of, at the owner's expense, any cervid possessed in violation of this Section.

Historical Note

New Section made by final rulemaking at 9 A.A.R. 3186, effective August 30, 2003 (Supp. 03-3). Amended by final rulemaking at 12 A.A.R. 980, effective May 6, 2006 (Supp. 06-1).