Subpart A—Introduction

§ 16.1 Purpose of regulations.

The regulations contained in this part implement the Lacey Act (18 U.S.C. 42).

§ 16.2 Scope of regulations.

The provisions of this part are in addition to, and are not in lieu of, other regulations of this subchapter B which may require a permit or prescribe additional restrictions or conditions for the importation, exportation, and interstate transportation of wildlife (see also part 13).

§ 16.3 General restrictions.

Any importation or transportation of live wildlife or eggs thereof, or dead fish or eggs or salmonids of the fish family Salmonidae into the United States or its territories or possessions is deemed to be injurious or potentially injurious to the health and welfare of human beings, to the interest of forestry, agriculture, and horticulture, and to the welfare and survival of the wildlife or wildlife resources of the United States; and any such importation into or the transportation of live wildlife or eggs thereof between the continental United States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any territory or possession of the United States by any means whatsoever, is prohibited except for certain purposes and under certain conditions as hereinafter provided in this part: Provided, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to psittacine birds (see also §§16.32 and 16.33 for other exemptions).

Subpart B—Importation or Shipment of Injurious Wildlife

§ 16.11 Importation of live wild mammals.

(a) The importation, transportation, or acquisition is prohibited of live specimens of: (1) Any species of so-called “flying fox” or fruit bat of the genus Pteropus; (2) any species of mongoose or meerkat of the genera Atilax, Cynictis, Helogale, Herpestes, Ichneumia, Mungos, and Suricata; (3) any species of European rabbit of the genus...
Oryctolagus; (4) any species of Indian wild dog, red dog, or dhole of the genus Cuon; (5) any species of multimammate rat or mouse of the genus Mastomys; (6) any raccoon dog, Nyctereutes procyonoides; and (7) any brushtail possum, Trichosurus vulpecula: Provided, that the Director shall issue permits authorizing the importation, transportation, and possession of such mammals under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.

(b) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all other species of live wild mammals may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit, for scientific, medical, educational, exhibition, or propagating purposes, but no such live wild mammals or any progeny thereof may be released into the wild except by the State wildlife conservation agency having jurisdiction over the area of release or by persons having prior written permission for release from such agency:

Provided, That the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to live game mammals from Mexico, the importation of which is governed by regulations under part 14 of this chapter.


§ 16.12 Importation of live wild birds or their eggs.

(a) The importation, transportation, or acquisition is prohibited of any live specimen or egg of (1) the species of so-called “pink starling” or “rosy pastor” Sturnus roseus; (2) the species of dioch (including the subspecies black-fronted, red-billed, or Sudan dioch) Quelea quelea; (3) any species of Java sparrow, Padda oryzivora; (4) the species of red-whiskered bulbul, Pyconotus jocosus: Provided, That the Director shall issue permits authorizing the importation, transportation, and possession of such live birds under the terms and conditions set forth in §16.22.

(b) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all species of live wild game, birds may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit, for scientific, medical, educational, exhibition, or propagating purposes, and the eggs of such birds may be imported, transported, and possessed, without a permit, for propagating or scientific collection purposes, but no such live wild game birds or any progeny thereof may be released into the wild except by the State wildlife conservation agency having jurisdiction over the area of release or by persons having prior written permission for release from such agency.

(c) Upon the filing of a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61, all species of live, wild nongame birds (other than those listed in paragraph (a) of this section) may be imported, transported, and possessed in captivity, without a permit, for scientific, medical, educational, exhibition, or propagating purposes, but no such live, wild nongame birds or any progeny thereof may be released into the wild except by or under the direction of State wildlife conservation agencies when such agencies have received prior written permission from the Director for such release: Provided, That the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to live bald and golden eagles or to live migratory birds, the importation of which is governed by regulations under parts 22 and 21 of this chapter, respectively, or to birds of the Family Psittacidae (parrots, macaws, cockatoos, parakeets, lories, lovebirds, etc.), the importation and transportation of which is governed by U.S. Public Health Service regulations under 42 CFR parts 71 and 72.

(d) The importation of the eggs of wild nongame birds is prohibited except as permitted under §16.33.

§ 16.13 Importation of live or dead fish, mollusks, and crustaceans, or their eggs.

(a) Upon an exporter filing a written declaration with the District Director of Customs at the port of entry as required under §14.61 of this chapter, live or dead fish, mollusks, and crustaceans, or parts thereof, or their gametes or fertilized eggs, may be imported, transported, and possessed in