

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES  
APPLICATION TO IMPORT AND POSSESS CERTAIN NON-NATIVE (EXOTIC) WILDLIFE  
IN VIRGINIA (9 – EXIH)**

(Under Authority of § 29.1-542 of the Code of Virginia, 4 VAC 15-30-40)  
Permit Period is January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> (or part thereof)

**Non-refundable Application Fee: \$10.00**

Permit (Check One):  NEW  RENEWAL Previous DWR Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Miss.

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4 of SSN \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4 of Driver's Lic# \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please print or type responses legibly and answer all questions thoroughly. Incomplete or illegible applications will not be processed.

Location of facility where animal(s) will be kept: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

List species to be imported and possessed (common & scientific names, and number): \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of importation: \_\_\_\_\_

Person or facility from which animal(s) will be acquired:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions thoroughly, attach additional pages if needed:

1. Was the animal captive bred or wild caught? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Describe the background of the animal to be imported (confiscated because of animal welfare concerns, private breeding facility, surplus animal, captured from the wild (include reason why animal was removed from the wild), surrendered, etc.).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Submit health records for the imported animal if available OR describe health history.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Describe any previous pertinent disease issues at the facility.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Desired/expected date of importation: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Describe specifications/guidelines used to determine appropriate housing, care, enrichment, etc. (Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Species Survival Plan, United States Department of Agriculture Animal Welfare Act, etc.).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Describe species-specific requirements identified in the document(s) listed above. Describe how natural/behavioral requirements such as activity time (i.e. nocturnal, diurnal, crepuscular), sensitivity to light or sound, life habit/adaptation (terrestrial, aquatic, fossorial, arboreal, etc.), social interaction, preference for vertical vs horizontal space, etc. will be addressed.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Describe housing in detail.

a. Describe enclosure. Include dimensions that animal can access (length, width, height), flooring, materials used to enclose the exhibit (chain link, wire, glass, etc.).

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b. Describe species-specific unique features of the enclosure (water features, dig box, climbing wall, hide boxes, tunnels, cover, shade, etc.).

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c. Describe off-exhibit/holding areas (if appropriate).

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d. Include number and species of other animals sharing the exhibit.

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9. Describe general husbandry.

a. Describe diet.

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b. Describe exhibit cleaning schedule.

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c. Describe behavioral enrichment practices, materials, schedule, etc.

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10. If anticipated that animal will be used for breeding, provide details on purpose and plans to breed this animal, including disposition of offspring and participation in an AZA Species Survival Plan Program (if not planning to breed please write N/A).

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11. Describe veterinary care. Provide veterinarian's name and any anticipated preventative veterinary care schedule (annual physical exams, annual health testing, annual vaccines, etc.).

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12. Describe what interactions will occur with anyone other than facility staff. Include description(s) of direct contact.

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13. Describe escapement plan. Include details on special security measures to keep animal contained, non-lethal and lethal (if necessary) measures to be utilized to re-capture, etc.

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14. Provide any additional details you feel would help in the review this application (optional).

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Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature above, I hereby certify that all entries made on this application are true and complete, and I agree and understand that any falsification of information herein, regardless of time of discovery, may result in denial or revocation of my permit. TYPED SIGNATURE IS AUTHORIZED AND BINDING PER CODE OF VIRGINIA §59.1, CHAPTER 42.1, ET SEQ.

Make nonrefundable application fee check payable to: **Treasurer of Virginia** and return to: Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, Permits Section, P. O. Box 3337, Henrico, VA 23228

**THIS PERMIT EXPIRES DECEMBER 31.**



## **PERMIT TO IMPORT AND POSSESS OF CERTAIN NON-NATIVE (EXOTIC) SPECIES PERMIT CONDITIONS**

**PERMIT INFORMATION:** Under authority of Sections 29.1-103 and 29.1-521 of the Code of Virginia it shall be unlawful to take, possess, import, cause to be imported, export, cause to be exported, buy, sell, offer for sale or liberate within the Commonwealth any wild animal unless otherwise specifically permitted by law or regulation. Unless otherwise stated, for the purposes of identifying species regulated by the Board, when both the scientific and common names are listed, the scientific reference to genus and species will take precedence over common names.

Under the authority of Section 29.1-542 of the Code of Virginia, live wolves or coyotes, or birds and animals otherwise classed as predatory or undesirable, may not be imported into the Commonwealth or liberated therein, or possessed therein, except under a special permit of the Board. Before such permit is issued, the importer shall make application to the Department of Wildlife Resources, giving the place of origin, the name and address of the exporter and a certificate from a licensed and accredited practicing veterinarian, or certified fish pathologist, certifying that the animal to be imported is not manifesting any signs of infectious, contagious, or communicable disease. If animals are acquired from and in-state source, a health certificate is not necessary.

4 VAC 15-30-40 of the Virginia Administrative Code requires that a special permit is required and may be issued by the Department, if consistent with the department's fish and wildlife management program, to import, possess, or sell those non-native (exotic) animals that the board finds and declares to be predatory or undesirable within the meaning and intent of Section 29.1-542 of the Code of Virginia, in that their introduction into the Commonwealth will be detrimental to the native fish and wildlife resources of Virginia.

It shall be unlawful for any person, or persons, to display, exhibit, handle or use any poisonous or dangerous snake or reptile in such a manner as to endanger the life or health of any person under authority of Section 18.2-313 of the Code of Virginia.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any exotic reptile or type of reptile not native to the Commonwealth of Virginia, including but not limited to the American alligator, to keep the reptile in any manner that will permit its escape or to knowingly permit the reptile to run at large under authority of Section 29.1-569 of the Code of Virginia.

The public should not be allowed to come into direct contact with any animals possessed under this permit, or within close proximity of any animal possessed under this permit where a person's health and safety could be potentially compromised.

**APPLICATION:** Application for a permit and a \$10.00 non-refundable application fee shall be submitted to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, Permits Section, P. O. Box 3337, Henrico, VA 23228 (All checks made payable to the "Treasurer of Virginia").

**TERM OF PERMIT:** Permits issued under the provisions of this section shall be issued on a fiscal year basis beginning January 1 and expiring December 31.

**RENEWAL:** It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to initiate any and all renewals.

**COMPLIANCE/VIOLATION/REVOCATION:**

- A. 4 VAC 15-290-130 of the Virginia Administrative Code requires that a permit holder shall comply with all terms and conditions of any permit issued by the Department of Wildlife Resources pursuant to Title 29.1 of the Code of Virginia and the regulations of the board pertaining to hunting, fishing, trapping, attempting to take, possession, sale, offering for sale, transporting or causing to be transported, importing or exporting, propagating, exhibiting, and rehabilitating of any wild bird, wild animal or fish. The penalty for violation of this section is a Class 3 misdemeanor unless another penalty is specified. Further, any violation of state or federal wildlife laws related to the permitted activities by the permittee, his/her agents or employees, or guests will constitute a violation of the conditions of the permit.
  
- B. As provided by 4 VAC 15-30-5 of the Virginia Administrative Code, failure to comply with the provisions of a permit may result in the revocation or suspension of the permit for a period up to but not to exceed five (5) years. Any person whose permit is revoked, denied or suspended may appeal that decision in writing, to the Executive Director, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, P. O. Box 3337, Henrico, VA 23228.

**RELEASE TO THE WILD:** Under no circumstances shall any non-native (exotic) species be released into the wild.

**FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL LAWS:** This permit does not absolve the permittee of any responsibilities or conditions of any other federal, state, or local laws and regulations, including those that apply to threatened and endangered species.