



Cervids

Current as of September 20, 2022

Cervids include all deer, elk, moose, caribou and related species in the cervidae family, raised under confinement or agricultural conditions for the production of meat or other agricultural products or for sport or exhibition, and free-ranging cervidae when they are captured for any purpose.

For exotic cervid and chronic wasting disease (CWD) susceptible species movement requirements, please visit the [Exotic Livestock & Ratites Movement Guide](#).

Interstate Movement (Out-of-State Moving into Texas)	Intrastate Movement (Texas Moving within Texas)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibited & Restricted Movement: Any animal that is affected, exposed or quarantined in any manner for an infectious, contagious, or communicable disease may not enter the state. Entry into Texas may be granted on a case-by-case basis only after permission is granted from the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) Executive Director (4 TAC §51.5). Contact TAHC at 1-800-550-8242. 2. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection: A certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) is required within 30 days prior to entry into Texas (§51.2(b)), unless otherwise noted or excepted. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Note: Additional statements or language are required on the CVI for specific species and diseases (§51.2(b) and §51.10(b)). Contact TAHC at 1-800-550-8242. 2.2 Note: All cervids coming from a vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) affected state must have a CVI issued within 14 days prior to entry (§51.7(d)). 2.3 Note: Please refer to item 7.1.3 of this document for additional Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) susceptible species requirements. 3. Entry Permit: An entry permit is required within 15 days prior to entry, unless otherwise excepted. Entry permits may be obtained at any time by calling 512-719-0777, or 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777, or by emailing the TAHC at permits@tahc.texas.gov. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Note: Please refer to item 7.1.3 of this document for additional Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) susceptible species requirements. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibited & Restricted Movement: Any animal that is under a Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) quarantine cannot be moved from a quarantined area unless movement is authorized by the TAHC Executive Director (4 TAC §51.5). Contact the TAHC at 1-800-550-8242. 2. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection: Unless otherwise noted, cervids are not required to obtain a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Note: Cervids must meet the same requirements as for those entering from out-of-state, and be accompanied by a CVI when entering interstate shows, fairs and exhibitions (§51.4(b)(3)). 3. Exhibition and Event Requirements: www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/entry.html#show 4. Official Identification Requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Live exotic CWD susceptible species moved or transported within the state shall be identified with an official animal identification device, which may include an eartag that conforms to the USDA alphanumeric National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES), a visible and legible animal identification number (AIN) or other identification methods approved by the commission, including a RFID device (§40.5(c)(1)).



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<p>4. Exhibition and Event Requirements: www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/entry.html#show</p> <p>5. Official Identification Requirements:</p> <p>5.1 The cervid(s) to be imported must be identified to their herd of origin by a minimum of two official unique identifiers to include, but not limited to (§51.10(b)):</p> <p>5.1.1 A legible tattoo (§51.10(b)),</p> <p>5.1.2 USDA approved eartag (§51.10(b)),</p> <p>5.1.3 Breed registration (§51.10(b)),</p> <p>5.1.4 RFID device (§51.10(b)), or</p> <p>5.1.5 Other TAHC-approved permanent identification method (§51.10(b)).</p> <p>5.1.6 <u>Note:</u> If a microchip is used for identification, the owner shall provide the necessary reader (§51.10(b)).</p> <p>5.1.7 <u>Note:</u> Any captive cervid tested with an official tuberculosis test must bear official identification in the form of an official eartag, or another identification device or method approved by the USDA as unique and traceable, at the time of the official tuberculosis test (9 CFR 77.33(c)).</p> <p>6. Testing Requirements:</p> <p>6.1 Tuberculosis:</p> <p>6.1.1 Unless otherwise excepted, all cervids must have two official tuberculosis tests, which were conducted no less than 90 days apart; that the second test was conducted within 90 days prior to the date of movement; and that the animals were isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period (§51.10(c)(4)).</p> <p>6.1.1.1 <u>Exception:</u> Originate from an accredited free herd provided they are accompanied by a certificate stating their origination from an Accredited-Free herd (§51.10(c)(1)).</p> <p>6.1.1.2 <u>Exception:</u> Originate from a qualified herd and have been classified negative to a tuberculosis test 90 days prior to movement. If the qualifying herd test was administered within 90 days of</p>	<p>4.2. To move live exotic CWD susceptible species to or from a premises, the owner must obtain a PIN or LID from the TAHC or USDA (§40.5(c)(2)).</p> <p>5. Movement Reporting Requirements:</p> <p>5.1. A complete movement record for all live exotic CWD susceptible species that are moved onto or off of a premises must be submitted to the TAHC within 48 hours of the movement, either in hard or electronic copy on forms provided or authorized by the TAHC (§40.5(c)(4)).</p> <p>5.1.1. The person moving the exotic CWD susceptible species must have documentation with the exotic CWD susceptible species being moved to show compliance with the requirements (§40.5(c)(4)).</p> <p>5.1.2. A copy of this documentation must be provided to any market selling these species (§40.5(c)(4)).</p> <p>5.1.3. Direct movement reporting to one of the following (§40.5(c)(4)):</p> <p>5.1.3.1. Texas Animal Health Commission, CWD Susceptible Species Reporting, P.O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966 (§40.5(c)(4));</p> <p>5.1.3.2. by fax to (512) 719-0729 (§40.5(c)(4)); or</p> <p>5.1.3.3. by email to CWD_reports@tahc.texas.gov (§40.5(c)(4)).</p> <p>6. Annual Inventory & Mortality Logs:</p> <p>6.1. An owner of a premises where exotic CWD susceptible species are located within a high fence must keep herd records that include an annual inventory and mortality log for all exotic CWD susceptible species (§40.5(c)(3)).</p> <p>6.1.1. The inventory must be submitted to the TAHC on or before April 1 of each year (§40.5(c)(3)).</p> <p>6.1.1.1. An annual inventory form can be obtained here.</p>



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<p>movement, an additional test is not required (§51.10(c)(2)).</p> <p>6.1.1.3 Exception: Originate from a monitored herd and have been classified negative to an official tuberculosis test 90 days prior to the date of movement provided they are accompanied by a certificate stating their origination from a monitored herd (§51.10(c)(3)).</p> <p>6.1.1.4 Exception: Cervids less than 12 months of age, originate from and were born in accredited, qualified, or monitored herds provided they are accompanied by a certificate stating origin and have not been exposed to cervids from a lower status (§51.10(c)(5)).</p> <p>6.1.1.5 Exception: Cervids moving from an American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZAA) accredited facility directly to another facility accredited by the AZAA are exempt from these entry requirements provided those cervids being moved are not commingled with cervids from other sources during the transfer (§51.10(c)(6)).</p> <p>6.1.2 Cervids originating from the tuberculosis restricted zone(s) in Michigan must be tested in accordance with Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 77, prior to entry (§51.10(c)(7)).</p> <p>6.2 Brucellosis:</p> <p>6.2.1 Exotic cervidae must test negative to a brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry if from the Brucellosis Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) located in the states of Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana or for any free ranging exotic cervidae trapped for movement (§51.9(a)(1)).</p> <p>7. Other Requirements:</p> <p>7.1 Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD):</p> <p>7.1.1 For cervid species under TPWDs jurisdiction (i.e. mule deer, white-tailed deer, etc.)</p>	<p>6.1.1.2. A mortality log can be obtained here.</p> <p>7. Dealer Requirements:</p> <p>7.1. Note: A dealer is a person engaged in the business of buying or selling exotic CWD susceptible species in commerce on the person's own account, as an employee or agent of a vendor, purchaser, or both, or on a commission basis (§40.5(h)).</p> <p>7.2. A dealer must maintain records for all exotic CWD susceptible species transported within the state or where there is a transfer of ownership, and provide these to TAHC personnel upon request (§40.5(h)).</p> <p>7.2.1. Records required to be kept under the provisions of this section must be maintained for not less than five years and must include the following information:</p> <p>7.2.1.1. Owner's name (§40.5(h)(1));</p> <p>7.2.1.2. Location where the animal was sold or purchased (§40.5(h)(2));</p> <p>7.2.1.3. Official ID and/or Ranch tag (additional field for retag) (§40.5(h)(3));</p> <p>7.2.1.4. Sex and age of animal (§40.5(h)(4));</p> <p>7.2.1.5. Source of animal (if purchased addition) (§40.5(h)(5));</p> <p>7.2.1.6. Movement to other premises (§40.5(h)(6)); and</p> <p>7.2.1.7. Disposition of the animal (§40.5(h)(7)).</p> <p>7.3. To maintain separate herd status for the animals a dealer sells, a dealer shall maintain separate herd facilities and separate water sources; there shall be at least 30 feet between the perimeter fencing around separate herds; and no commingling of animals may occur. Movement of animals between herds must be recorded as if they were separately owned herds (§40.5(h)).</p> <p>8. CWD Movement Restriction Zones:</p> <p>8.1. Containment Zones: No exotic CWD susceptible species may be transported</p>



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<p>movement requirements, contact TPWD at 512-389-4800.</p> <p>7.1.2 For exotic CWD susceptible species movement requirements, contact the TAHC at 1-800-550-8242 or view the Exotic Livestock & Ratite Movement Summary.</p> <p>7.1.3 Additional movement requirements for chronic wasting disease (CWD) susceptible species:</p> <p>7.1.3.1 <u>Note:</u> CWD susceptible species include all species in the Cervidae family that have had a CWD diagnosis confirmed by an official test conducted by an approved laboratory. This includes white-tailed deer, mule deer, black-tailed deer, North American elk or wapiti, red deer, Sika, deer, moose, reindeer, and caribou, muntjac deer, and any other associated subspecies and hybrids or other cervid species determined to be susceptible to CWD (§40.1(10) & §51.10(a)).</p> <p>7.1.3.2 All requests for entry must be in writing, accompanied with the information necessary to support import qualifications of the animal(s), and submitted at least 10 working days prior to the proposed entry date. The application must be accompanied by the owner's statement that to his/her knowledge the animal (or donor animals) to be imported have never come in contact with equipment or resided on a premises where CWD has been diagnosed (§51.10(a)).</p> <p>7.1.3.3 The applicant must identify the herd of origin and herd of destination on both the permit application and CVI (§51.10(b)).</p> <p>7.1.3.4 The applicant must provide documentation showing the animal(s) originate from a herd that has achieved Certified status</p>	<p>outside a Containment Zone (CZ) unless from a herd with a Certified Status as established through §40.3(c)(6) (relating to Herd Status Plans for Cervidae) (§40.6(c)(1)).</p> <p>8.1.1.<u>Note:</u> The Executive Director may authorize movement. If movement is necessary or desirable to promote the objectives of 4 TAC Chapter 40 or to minimize the economic impact of the restricted CWD susceptible species without endangering those objectives or the health and safety of other CWD susceptible species within the state, the Executive Director may authorize movement in a manner that creates minimal risk to the other CWD susceptible species in the state (§40.6(f)).</p> <p>8.2. <u>Surveillance Zones:</u> Prior to the movement of an exotic CWD susceptible species outside a Surveillance Zone (SZ) or from one premises in the SZ to another premises within the SZ, the premises of origin shall have an epidemiological risk assessment conducted by the TAHC (§40.6(d)(1)).</p> <p>8.2.1.<u>Note:</u> The Executive Director may authorize movement. If movement is necessary or desirable to promote the objectives of 4 TAC Chapter 40 or to minimize the economic impact of the restricted CWD susceptible species without endangering those objectives or the health and safety of other CWD susceptible species within the state, the Executive Director may authorize movement in a manner that creates minimal risk to the other CWD susceptible species in the state (§40.6(f)).</p> <p>8.3. No exotic CWD susceptible species may be released within a CZ or SZ outside a high fence premises (§40.6(c)(2) & §40.6(d)(2)).</p> <p>8.4. For carcass movement restrictions and requirements visit §40.6(c)(4).</p> <p>9. CWD Herd Certification Program Movement Requirements:</p>



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<p>in an Approved State CWD Herd Certification Program in compliance with the interstate movement requirements of the May 2019 USDA CWD Herd Certification Program Standards and 9 CFR, Part 55 and 81, for a minimum of five years and is more than 25 miles from a location where CWD has been confirmed or as otherwise epidemiologically determined by the TAHC Executive Director (§51.10(b)).</p>	<p>9.1. Please refer to 4 TAC §40.3 and the TAHC Chronic Wasting Disease Herd Certification Compliance Guide for requirements.</p>
International Movement (Cervids moved into Texas from foreign countries)	
<p>Contact USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) for international animal requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Export call 512-383-2411 • For Import call 301-851-3300 	