

## **Ontario CITES Permit Questions and Answers**

### **1. How do I get a CITES permit?**

For more information on Canadian CITES permits and application forms visit Environment Canada and Climate Change's website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/convention-international-trade-endangered-species/permits.html>. To request a permit application by phone, call 1 (855) 869-8670, or email [ec.cites.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.cites.ec@canada.ca)

### **2. Can I apply for my CITES permit in advance of my hunting trip?**

Yes. It is recommended that you apply for and receive your CITES permit in advance of your hunting trip. You would need to have your Ontario hunting license available before you can apply for the CITES permit. A copy of the Ontario hunting license would need to be provided with the CITES application form. If you have a successful hunt you would then be able to take your hunting trophy out of Canada without having to wait to receive your permit. It is recommended to apply well in advance of the trip and apply for permits for all CITES listed species that you may harvest.

### **3. How long does it take to get a CITES permit from Environment Canada and Climate Change?**

When you apply for a CITES permit, ECCC aims to give you a decision within the following timelines:

- hunting trophy export permit (excluding Polar Bears): 21 calendar days
- Polar Bear export permit: 70 calendar days
- all other CITES permit types: 35 calendar days

### **4. When are CITES permits required?**

A CITES permit may be required if you are taking a CITES-listed plant or animal, or their parts or derivatives, out of the country. For example:

- Wildlife specimens (scientific samples, museum specimens)
- Exotic pets (exotic large cats, parrots, some raptor species)
- Hunting trophies (wolves, bears, otter, lynx, bobcat)
- American hunters leaving Canada with a freshly killed black bear they have legally harvested are exempt from CITES permitting requirements when returning to the United States. NOTE: a Canadian hunter would also be exempt from CITES permitting if they were returning to Canada with a black bear they legally harvested in the United States.

### **5. How do I know whether a species is protected under CITES?**

You can use the following checklist to see whether a species is protected under CITES - <https://checklist.cites.org/#/en>. You will need to use the scientific name

of the species when using the checklist, which you can find by searching the internet. Common names are not recommended for CITES searches, since they are too vague.