



Why do I need a Permit?

Many animal species are threatened with extinction as a result of habitat loss and over-harvesting for commercial and personal purposes. Various levels of government and international agencies ensure that the interprovincial-territorial and international trade and transport of animals and their products (including arts and crafts) are carried out in a legal manner. While, many wildlife species in Nunavut are not currently considered endangered; the existence of protections to ensure the sustainability of the species is important in order to safeguard these resources for the future. The permitting process thus ensures national and international cooperation in regulating and safeguarding certain species from exploitation.

Are you travelling within Canada?

If you are leaving Nunavut with parts of an animal, including antlers, bones, teeth or untanned furs and raw hides you will require a **Wildlife Export Permit** issued by the Government of Nunavut. If however, you have purchased a piece of art or craft made from any animal parts or skins, you will not require a permit to remove the product (unless it is a marine mammal) but may require a separate permit to remove it from Canada.

If you are leaving Nunavut with arts and crafts manufactured from any marine mammal (seals, walrus, whales), you are federally required to obtain a **Marine Mammal Transportation License** from Fisheries and Oceans Canada. A narwhal tusk, in particular, must have a marine mammal tag attached to it when applying for a license. The license is only valid for transportation of your product throughout Canada.

Are you travelling outside of Canada?

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) controls the movement of animal and their by-products that are, or may be, threatened due to excessive commercial exploitation. Environment Canada is the lead agency responsible for implementing CITES on behalf of Canada

CITES operates through an import/export permit system. Animals and plants are classified into one of three Appendices depending on the severity of endangerment. Arts and crafts made from animals

that are listed in CITES Appendices for Nunavut include: polar bears, narwhals, belugas, wolves and walrus.

You will require an export permit from Canada for:

- parts or products of harvested animals from animals hunted/trapped in Nunavut
- garments or products made from the fur or skin of animals harvested in Nunavut

While your product may meet Canadian CITES export requirements, please be advised that some countries have enacted additional legislation that is more stringent than that of CITES. Once you receive a Canadian CITES export permit, you will have to apply for your domestic CITES import permit.

Note that for residents of the United States, the Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits any U.S. citizen from importing any marine mammal product including arts, crafts, jewelry and clothing from: seals, whales and polar bears.

For further information on CITES please visit: <http://www.cites.org>



If CITES-listed wildlife, or their products, is exported from Canada, or attempted to be exported without the necessary permits, those goods are subject to seizure and forfeiture, and the importers/exporters are liable to prosecution. Remember, you are responsible for knowing your own country's import regulations for arts and crafts made from Arctic animals.