



## NOTICE TO THE WILDLIFE IMPORT/EXPORT COMMUNITY



February 26, 2008

### **Subject: Proposed Changes to Import/Export Inspection Fees and License and Fee Requirements**

**Background:** On February 25, 2008, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a [proposed rule](#) in the Federal Register (FR Vol. 73, No. 37, pages 9972-9983) outlining proposed changes to import/export inspection fees and to some requirements for import/export licenses and fees. The Service last increased inspection fees in 1996; the proposed increases will allow the agency to maintain its current level of inspection services.

Changes proposed include a 5-year fee schedule that sets yearly increases in basic inspection fees and overtime charges and the establishment of new “premium” fees for shipments containing live wildlife or protected species. Other changes being proposed will require some now-exempt businesses to pay inspection fees and/or obtain import/export licenses. Those affected will include circuses, animal shows, and companies dealing in certain captive-bred furs, meat from U.S. bison, emu and ostrich ranching operations, and aquacultured sturgeon products.

**Action:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is accepting public comments on this proposed rule until April 25, 2008. Comments must be submitted in writing as explained below. Comments will also be accepted at a public meeting, which will be held on April 3, 2008, from 1 to 4 p.m. in Room 200 of the Service’s headquarters building at 4401 N. Fairfax Drive in Arlington, Virginia. (Comments presented at this meeting must be provided in writing.)

The proposed rule and explanatory materials can be found at:  
<http://www.fws.gov/le/AboutLE/ProposedInspectionFeeIncreases.htm>

**Comments:** All comments on this proposal should be submitted by **April 25, 2008**, to the Federal eRulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: RIN 1018-AV31, Division of Policy and Directives Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 222, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

**Contact:**  
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