

Ordering Eagle Parts and Feathers from the National Eagle Repository While Incarcerated

For hundreds of years, Native Americans have used eagle parts and feathers for religious and cultural purposes, including healing, marriage, and naming ceremonies. Recognizing the significance of eagles to Native Americans, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) established the National Eagle Repository (Repository) in the early 1970s to provide Native Americans with the carcasses, parts and feathers of Golden and Bald eagles for religious purposes.

• Can I obtain eagle carcasses, parts, and feathers from the Repository while I am incarcerated?

Yes, only enrolled members of Federally recognized tribes who are 18 years of age or older may apply to receive and possess eagle carcasses, parts, and feathers from the Repository for religious purposes.

The Repository can only provide what the correctional facility will allow. You must contact the facility's religious coordinator or your chaplain to find out what is allowed before submitting an application or reorder.

• How do I request these items from the Repository?

Applications can be found online or you can request one in writing from the Permit Office or the Repository. Online at: http://www.fws.gov/permits/appplicationforms/ApplicationsB.html

For first time applicants:

- 1. Fill out Form **3-200-15A** (Permit Application and First Order Request)
 Online at: http://forms.fws.gov/3-200-15a.pdf
- 2. Have your tribal enrollment office fill out the "Certificate of Enrollment in a Federally Recognized Tribe form".
- 3. Submit all documentation to the permit office designated for the state you live in (see page 4).
- 4. The permit office will process your permit application and, if approved, issue you a lifetime permit to possess eagle carcasses or parts (including feathers) provided by the Repository for religious purposes.
- 5. The permit office will forward your First Order to the Repository for processing.

After your first order has been filled, you will submit all Reorders directly to the repository.

You may only have one pending request on file at any given time.

For Reorders:

- 1. Fill out Form **3-200-15B** (Re-order Request) Online at: http://forms.fws.gov/3-200-15b.pdf
- 2. You do not have to have your tribal office fill out another Certificate of Enrollment.
- 3. Submit completed form directly to the Repository.
- 4. A blue postcard acknowledging your request was received will be sent to you within 2 weeks. It is a notification only and there is no need to contact the repository.

Please contact the permit office if you need to change the name or address on your permit or request a copy. You may only have one pending request on file at any given time.

Note: You must complete the above forms with the facility address and not an outside address. Orders can only be shipped directly to you.

What items may Native Americans order from the Repository?

The Repository can only send you what the facility allows for possession. You may not order more of any part than is found on one whole eagle.

- 1. Up to one whole Golden or Bald eagle or equivalent parts.
- 2. Loose feathers.
- 3. A pair of wings
- 4. A whole tail
- 5. A head, pair of talons, or trunk
- Can I have the entire order sent home, to a family member, or power of attorney? Or can I split the order to receive what I am allowed in the facility and have the rest sent home, to a family member or to a power of attorney?
 - No, the repository <u>cannot</u> split the order or send the parts/feathers to a person on the outside.
 - ➤ However, you may choose to wait until your release to have the entire order shipped directly to you. Please notify the Repository in writing of your decision to wait until your release for the shipment.
 - ➤ Once released, please contact the Repository to update your address and contact information and arrange shipment of your order.
- How many loose feathers may an individual request?

There are two types of loose feather requests. You may only request one or the other but not both and the Loose Feathers cannot be added to a whole bird, pair of wings, or tail order.

- ❖ 10 Quality Loose Feathers:
 - These consist of 8 wing feathers and 2 tail feathers.
 - ➤ Hand- picked.
 - No more than 2 tail feathers will be provided per order, due to limited supply.
 - ➤ Wing feathers will be selected half from the left wing and half from the right wing, unless specified all from one side.
 - > Spike feathers will be utilized.
 - Efforts are made to match the best quality feathers available.
- ❖ 20 Miscellaneous Loose Feathers:
 - > These consist of assorted feathers.
 - Includes various type feathers (such as primaries, secondaries, tail, and plumes).
 - ➤ All plumes may be requested.
 - These are lower quality feathers and feather condition cannot be guaranteed.
 - > Applicants may not customize orders.

• How long does it take the Repository to fill orders?

The demand for eagle carcasses, parts, and feathers is high and supplies are limited. The time needed to fill requests will vary depending on the items ordered and as the inventory permits. Estimated time frames for various items are provided below.

Approximate Waiting Period*			
Item requested:	Bald Eagle	Adult Golden	Immature Golden
Whole Bird	2 years	2 years	5 years
Whole Tail	2 years	2 years	5 years
Pair of Wings	1 year	1-2 years	1-2 years
Wings & Tail	2 years	2 years	5 years
Loose Feathers:	•	•	•
10 Quality	6 months	6 months	1 year
20 Miscellaneous	3 months	3 months	6 months
Other Items/Parts	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

^{*}Waiting Period is approximate and may be longer than expected for <u>all Golden eagles/parts</u> due to the high demand and low supply.

