

## He aha ngā puka whakaaetanga e hiahiatia ana e koe i te Manatū Taonga?

What permits do you need from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage?

### Under the Protected Objects Act 1975 you may require:

- **A Certificate of Permission.** A certificate is required to export an item from New Zealand that is listed as protected. This can include artwork, craft, kākahu or other items that have historical, scientific or archaeological importance.

For further information, visit <https://mch.govt.nz> or email [protected-objects@mch.govt.nz](mailto:protected-objects@mch.govt.nz)



## Ngā take nui Important notes

- Always carry the original permit with the item to show border officials. In some instances, the original documentation will be retained by the border officials.
- On your return to New Zealand, declare the items on your arrival card under 'animals and animal products'. Show the items and permits to the border officer.
- Gifts that are given to you by First Nations peoples while you are overseas may equally not be able to be brought into New Zealand. You will need to check what permits you require from the country you are visiting and from New Zealand CITES officers.

PLEASE NOTE, if items are seized internationally without the correct permits, the New Zealand Government is unlikely to be able to have them returned to you.

This information relates to personal items only; for any commercial trading please email [cites@doc.govt.nz](mailto:cites@doc.govt.nz).

*Published by:*  
Department of Conservation  
PO Box 10420  
Wellington 6143

June 2019

*Editing and design:*  
DOC Creative Services,  
Conservation House, Wellington

This publication is produced using paper sourced from well-managed, renewable and legally logged forests.

New Zealand Government



CONVENTION ON  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN  
ENDANGERED SPECIES OF  
WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

## Tō haerenga me ngā taonga Travelling with personal taonga



If you travel without the correct permits there is a risk that your personal precious taonga, such as feathers, bone or kākahu (cloaks), will be confiscated as you are leaving New Zealand or on arrival in another country.

Permits are required to stop the illegal cross-border movement of endangered, threatened or exploited species.

CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, is an international agreement that regulates and monitors trade in endangered species to ensure their long-term survival in the wild is not threatened.

CITES is implemented in New Zealand through the Trade in Endangered Species Act 1989 (TIES Act). The Department of Conservation administers CITES.



Department of  
Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai

R156909

## I mua i tō haerenga

### Before you travel

To travel across international borders and avoid the risk of having your taonga confiscated, you are likely to need permits from one or more of the following agencies.

#### Contact the Department of Conservation (DOC)

You may need multiple permits from DOC to travel.

When you enquire, outline exactly what materials you are taking with you, which country you are taking them to, and whether you will be bringing them back into New Zealand. Ask what documentation you will require to bring the taonga back into New Zealand.

You can:

- Request a Wildlife Act Authority to Export.
- Request a Marine Mammals Permit (allow 55 days).
- Request a CITES permit – it will be issued if required.

#### Contact the CITES Authority in the country you are going to

- Outline exactly what materials you are taking with you and if you will be returning them to New Zealand.
- Request advice about the permits they require – this may include permits in addition to CITES permits.
- Go to [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org) > Discover CITES > National CITES Authorities, and select your destination country.

#### Contact the Ministry for Culture and Heritage

- Request a Certificate of Permission if the artwork, craft, kākahu or other items have historical, cultural heritage, scientific or archaeological importance.
- You don't need a Certificate of Permission if your kākahu or craft is less than 50 years old. If your kākahu or craft looks more than 50 years old, you should request a letter from the Ministry for Culture and Heritage confirming the exemption for the item.

## He aha ngā puka whakaaetanga e hiahia ana i a Te Papa Atawhai?

### What permits might you need from the Department of Conservation?

#### CITES permits and certificates are issued under the Trade In Endangered Species Act 1989 (TIES Act).<sup>1</sup> You may need:

- **An export permit from New Zealand.** When you leave New Zealand, you may be required to obtain an export permit from DOC.
- **An import permit from New Zealand.** When you re-enter New Zealand, you may be required to obtain an import permit from DOC.
- **A pre-Convention certificate.** If you obtained the taonga before it was listed on CITES, you may qualify for a pre-Convention certificate, which can be used instead of a permit in some scenarios.
- **An affidavit proving where and how you acquired your taonga.** Under the TIES Act, whether you acquired your item in New Zealand can affect whether you require a permit.

DOC may also require that you obtain CITES permits from other countries. DOC's CITES team can advise you on the permits required; email [cites@doc.govt.nz](mailto:cites@doc.govt.nz).

Permit application forms can be found at: [www.doc.govt.nz/cites-permits](http://www.doc.govt.nz/cites-permits).

For further information, visit [www.doc.govt.nz/cites-species](http://www.doc.govt.nz/cites-species) or email [cites@doc.govt.nz](mailto:cites@doc.govt.nz). Allow 20 days for processing a permit from receipt of a completed application.

### Under the Wildlife Act 1953, you may also need:

- **A Wildlife Act Authority to Export.** Authority is required to take any bird (except those deemed to be domestic), bat, reptile, amphibian or specified invertebrate out of the country whether it is live, dead or as parts. This includes native bird feathers and taonga containing feathers, such as kākahu.
- It may also be useful to ask for a letter to accompany your Authority to Export, stating that you are bringing the animal/material back into the country. While this is not legally required, it provides an extra safeguard.

For further information and contact details, see [www.doc.govt.nz/permit-interacting-wildlife](http://www.doc.govt.nz/permit-interacting-wildlife) or email [permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz).

### Under the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978, you may also need:

- **A Marine Mammals Permit.** A permit is usually required to import or export any marine mammal or marine mammal product.
- However, it is not required for an ornament or an item for personal use or adornment (made from any part(s) of a marine mammal) if it accompanies that person leaving or entering New Zealand (or comprises part of that person's belongings) if it was in existence (in a similar form) as at 20 October 1978.

The minimum processing time for this permit is 55 working days as, before a decision is made, a public notice will be issued inviting written submissions within 28 days.

For further information, and links to the application form, visit [www.doc.govt.nz/permit-marine-mammal-interaction](http://www.doc.govt.nz/permit-marine-mammal-interaction) or email [permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz](mailto:permissionschristchurch@doc.govt.nz).

<sup>1</sup> New Zealand is party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The schedules of New Zealand's TIES Act reflect the listings of species in the Appendices of CITES, which include species that are endangered (Appendix I), threatened (Appendix II) or exploited (Appendix III) as a result of illegal international trade.