

CHAPTER 68-5 RULES RELATING TO NON-NATIVE SPECIES



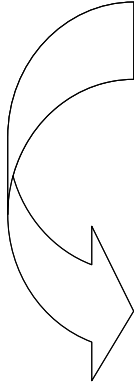
68A-23.008 Non-native Aquatic Species

68A-12.002 Non-protected mammals and birds

68A-25.002 Tortoises

372.98, F.S. Nutria

370.081, F.S. - nonindigenous marine species



**68-5 – RULES RELATING TO
NON-NATIVE SPECIES**

68A-23.008 Non-native Aquatic Species

RESTRICTED, 13 CATEGORIES

PROHIBITED, 15 CATEGORIES

68A-12.002 Non-protected mammals and birds

**armadillo, black rat, house mouse,
English sparrow, starling**

68A-25.002 Parasite-free certification

Leopard, African spurred, [Bell's hingeback] tortoises

372.98, F.S.

Nutria

370.081, F.S. - nonindigenous marine fishes

Stonefishes, Weeverfishes, Sea Snakes

68A-23.008 Repealed July 1, 2007

68A-23.008. Introduction of Non-Native Aquatic Species in the Waters of the State; Provisions for Sale and Inspection of Fish for Bait or Propagation Purpose; Diseased Fish.

(1) No person shall transport into the state, introduce, or possess for any purpose that might be reasonably expected to result in liberation into the waters of the state, any aquatic species not native to the state, without having secured a permit from the Commission, except:

(a) Fathead or tuffy minnow (*Pimephales promelas*).

(b) Variable platy (*Xiphophorus variatus*).

(2) Restricted non-native aquatic species:

(a) The following aquatic species or hybrids thereof may be possessed only under permit from the executive director.

1. Bighead carp (*Aristichthys nobilis*).

2. Bony-tongue fishes [family *Osteoglossidae*, all species except Silver arowana (*Osteoglossum bicirrhosum*)].

3. Dorados (genus *Salminus*, all species).

4. Freshwater stingrays (family *Potamotrygonidae*, all species).

personnel to insure that adequate safeguards exist to prevent escape or accidental release into the waters of the state. Permits for restricted aquatic species may be issued by the Commission subject to the following:

1. Restricted aquatic species held outdoors may only be held in a water body that has the lowest point of the top edge of its levee, dike, bank, or tank at an elevation of at least one foot (1') above the 100-year flood elevation determined by reference to elevation maps issued by the National Flood Insurance Program, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Such water body shall have no water discharge or shall be constructed with a fish barrier system designed to prevent escape of adult fish, juvenile fish and fish eggs in the water effluent discharged from the permittee's property. Such water body also shall be inaccessible to the public.

2. Restricted aquatic species held indoors may only be held in culture systems having no water discharge, having a water discharge through a closed drain system, or other system designed to prevent discharge of water containing adult and juvenile fish and fish eggs from the permittee's property.

(c) Permits may be granted for research or to commercial import or export facilities or

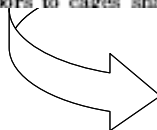
68A-25.006 Venomous reptiles

68A-25.006. Possession, Exhibition and Caging Venomous Reptiles; Prohibited Species.

(1) Any person who keeps, possesses or exhibits poisonous or venomous reptiles shall comply with ss. 372.86, 372.87, 372.88, 372.89, 372.90 and 372.91, F.S.

(2) Venomous reptiles shall be kept enclosed in cages, cases, pits or enclosures of the following specifications:

(a) Cage may be constructed of a variety of materials including: plate glass of at least one-quarter inch thickness, break-resistant plastic of similar strength, concrete reinforced with wire, sheet metal, molded fiberglass, plywood or interlocking lumber that has been treated to be impervious to moisture and is not less than one-half inch in thickness, or other materials which provide equivalent stability and security against escape and unauthorized intrusion. Cages and doors to cages shall be



**68A-6 Captive Wildlife
January 1, 2008**

68A-25.002 Venomous Reptiles

(14) On or after July 1, 1990 any person or entity not currently permitted to possess or exhibit venomous reptiles must qualify for a permit by meeting the following criteria:

(a) Submit documentation in accordance with the criteria specified in paragraph 68A-6.0022(5)(c), F.A.C., showing a minimum of one (1) year substantial practical experience in the care, feeding, handling and husbandry of the family of venomous reptiles for which the permit is sought.

(b) Shall not have been convicted of a violation of venomous reptile regulations for three (3) years prior to application for such permit.

(c) Must be at least eighteen (18) years old at the time of application.



**68A-6 Captive Wildlife
January 1, 2008**

68A-25.002 Non-native tortoises

(15) No leopard tortoise (*Geochelone pardalis*) or African spurred tortoise (*Geochelone sulcata*) shall be imported or transported into this state, without a special permit issued by the Commission. The basis for the issuance of such permit shall include:

(a) That each shipment is accompanied by a veterinary certificate stating that all specimens are free from external parasites;

(b) That all shipping containers used to transport such tortoises are incinerated within twenty-four (24) hours;

(c) Such other conditions as may be necessary to insure that no tortoise infested with ticks capable of transmitting the Heartwater disease is imported into Florida.



**68-5 Non-native species
July 1, 2007**

68-5 – RULES RELATING TO NON-NATIVE SPECIES

- **No person shall transport into the state, introduce, or possess, for any purpose that might reasonably be expected to result in liberation into the state, *any freshwater fish, marine plant, marine animal, or wildlife species not native to the state*, without having secured a permit from the Commission**

68-5 – RULES RELATING TO NON-NATIVE SPECIES

- **Unless otherwise prohibited by Title 68, all species of freshwater aquatic life and wild animal life not native to Florida may be taken with no restrictions.**

CONDITIONAL SPECIES: Red-eared slider

- Permit required
- Current owners grandfathered
- Exports may continue
- Albino/amelanistic specimens exempted



PROHIBITED SPECIES: Gambian Pouch Rat

- No personal possession
- Conforms to FDA/CDC rule

