



April 2013

**Notice of Changes and New Requirements to  
Section 671, Title 14, of the California Code of Regulations  
Re: Inspections, Facility Maps and Records of Restricted Species**

The following summary describes highlights of the new regulations that were adopted by the Fish and Game Commission and filed on August 31, 2012 and will become operative on July 1, 2013. This notice is provided to notify current permittees and applicants of some of the [changes to existing regulations](#), **the effective dates of these changes, the specific sections that were changed and who these changes may impact**.

This notice is a partial list of changes. **You should review the entire revised Restricted Species Regulations Manual 671, which includes all laws and new regulations to fully understand how the new regulations affect you.** It is your responsibility to understand and follow all applicable restricted species-related laws at all times. Revised Manual 671 is located at <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=28427&inline=true>

**\*ALL CHANGES ARE EFFECTIVE July 1, 2013  
FOR NEW AND CURRENT PERMITTEES\***

**NEW REQUIREMENT - Section 671.1(c)(2)(A)(B)**

**Inspection Fee** - Adds requirement that the applicant shall pay an inspection fee, for the type of inspection as specified in Section 671.8, when submitting an application to the Department, for a new permit, or renewing a permit, as specified in Section 703. **Applicants may no longer elect to have their veterinarian conduct the inspection of their animals and caging as requirement for issuance of the permit.**

**CHANGE - Section 671.1(c)(3)(M)**

**Written Records of Receipt, Transfer or Death of Restricted Species** - Adds requirement that **with the exception of animals requiring Unique Identification as required in Section 671.1(c)(3)(J)** (elephant, non-human primate, bear, wolf, gila monster, and animals in the Family Felidae), permittees are no longer required to provide written notification to the Department, 10 days prior to receipt or transfer of an animal. Each permittee is now required to keep accurate written records at the facility of all acquisitions, births, transfers or deaths of restricted species that are covered by the permit. The permittee shall retain such records for a minimum of three years from the date of the acquisition, birth, transfer or death, and shall make such records available to the Department for inspection at all times.

**NEW REQUIREMENT - Section 671.8(c)**

**Facility Maps and Numbering of Enclosures** – Adds requirement that every applicant, except Aquaculture and Research facilities, shall submit, along with the inspection fee, as specified in Section 703, a current map of all enclosures housing restricted species in California listed on their inventory. Each enclosure shall be numbered on both the map and physically on the enclosure. The number on the enclosure should be a minimum of 2 inches high, permanently attached and clearly visible for ease of identification. The map shall include both the enclosure dimensions (Length x Width x Height) and the species residing in the enclosure. If an enclosure is divided into more than one confined area, each area is considered a separate enclosure and shall be shown as a separate enclosure on the map. If an enclosure houses more than one species that co-exist, and is not divided, it shall be considered one enclosure.

## **NEW REQUIREMENT - Section 671.8**

**Facilities Inspections** - Adds requirement that the Department shall not issue a restricted species permit until the applicant's facility(ies) have been inspected by the Department and the Department has determined that the facility(ies) meet the minimum standards for humane care, treatment and housing of wild animals. **Veterinarians are no longer allowed to conduct inspections for issuance of a permit.**

**Renewal Inspection; Resident** – Adds requirement that before the Department renews a restricted species permit, the applicant shall pass an annual renewal inspection based on the permit year, as described in Section 671.8(b)

**Renewal Inspection; Nonresident** - Adds requirement that before the Department renews a permit for a nonresident exhibiting applicant, the applicant shall arrange for an inspection of the facility(ies), prior to the first performance, at the first location listed on the Restricted Species Nonresident Exhibiting Permit Itinerary. The applicant shall not proceed with a performance, show, or appearance prior to submitting to and passing an inspection and receiving a permit. Before the Department renews a permit to a nonresident for non-exhibiting purposes, the applicant shall pass an annual renewal inspection based on the permit year as described above for a nonresident exhibitor.

**Initial Inspection; Resident** – Adds requirement that before the Department issues a new restricted species permit to any resident applicant, the applicant shall arrange for an initial inspection of caging and holding facility(ies) and arrange for another inspection after the animal(s) arrive.

**Initial Inspection; Nonresident** – Adds requirement that before the Department issues a new permit to a nonresident applicant for exhibiting purposes, the applicant shall arrange for the inspection of the facility(ies), prior to the first performance, at the first location listed on the Restricted Species Nonresident Exhibiting Permit Itinerary. The applicant shall not proceed with a performance, show, or appearance prior to submitting to and passing an inspection and receiving a permit.

**Amendment Inspection** – Adds the requirement that prior to an amendment of an existing permit, the permittee shall notify the Department and provide photo documentation of the enclosure that includes all required elements of the minimum standards as specified in Section 671.3. If the amendment is approved, the permittee may add the species to their inventory. Upon renewal, the permittee shall include the new amended species and enclosed information on the revised map.

**Re-inspections** - If the Department identifies a non-compliant item or violation during an inspection, the Department may require that the applicant or permittee provide for one or more additional inspections within a specified time period at the applicant or permittee's expense, prior to issuing a permit or permit amendment.

**Research Entities** – The Department may enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU), with the applicant for a Restricted Species Research-Detrimental Species Permit, as an eligible local entity (ELE) to inspect facilities. Applicants for research permits shall submit the annual research-detrimental species fee and the new ELE/MOU fee to the Department. With annual renewal and the annual ELE/MOU renewal fee paid, an MOU may be valid for up to five permit years, at which time; a new MOU will be required. Until the Department enters into an MOU, a research facility shall submit an annual statement from a USDA accredited veterinarian certifying that the animals and their housing have been inspected at least twice during the year, at six month intervals, and that the animals are being cared for and housed in accordance with applicable requirements in subsections 671.1(a)(8)(A)-(F), and sections 671.2 through 671.4 to satisfy the inspection requirement.

**Aquaculture Inspection** – Adds the requirement that applicants for Aquaculture permits may have the inspection fee waived if a fish pathologist as defined in Section 245(b)(5) has inspected the applicant's facilities within the last 6 months, determines that the facility's housing meets the minimum applicable requirements in Section 671.7 and no fish health issues have been identified in the past year. Section 671.1(c)(3), now requires Aquaculture Facilities to have only one annual inspection and reduces the Aquaculture inspection fee by more than 50 percent.

**Fish Applicants** – Applicants are now exempt from both the annual Standard and Aquaculture inspection fee requirements.