

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**Animal Industry Division**  
99-941 Halawa Valley Street  
Aiea, HI 96701-5602  
Phone: (808) 483-7100 Fax: (808) 483-7110

To import Water Buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) AND Bison (*Bison bison*) into Hawaii, the following requirements shall be met prior to entry. Animals **not meeting pre-entry requirements may be refused entry into the state and returned to their point of origin at the importer's expense.**

**\*UPDATE\* - A permit to import Water Buffalo and Bison will be required from the Plant Quarantine Branch AND the Animal Industry.**

State regulations can be found on the internet at: <https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/pq/import-program/animal-guidelines/>

### **Pre-shipment requirements for Water Buffalo or Bison Entering the State of Hawaii**

1. Importers must obtain a permit from the Chief Plant Inspector, Plant Quarantine Branch before requesting a permit from the Animal Industry Division. Contact the Plant Quarantine Branch by calling (808) 832-0566.
2. Animals must originate from a herd that is not under quarantine for **any reason**.
3. Animals must be free of external parasites and symptoms of transmissible diseases and have not had recent exposure to these diseases.
4. Tested negative within 30 days of shipment by a state, federal, or accredited veterinarian for **brucellosis (by an official brucellosis test performed in a USDA approved laboratory), anaplasmosis (with c-ELISA test at an approved laboratory) and tuberculosis.**
5. All non-virgin bulls and all bulls 12 months of age and older shall be **negative for trichomoniasis** by PCR testing done within 30 days of entry. Pooled samples from up to five bulls can be tested at laboratories that approve pooled PCR testing.
  - a) Tested bulls shall not breed cows from 10 days prior to testing nor shall breed cows post-testing until they have arrived in the state.
6. Every animal must be **uniquely identified** by one of the following:
  - a) National Uniform ear tag (Bangs, Brite/Silver tag)
  - b) Official 840 radio frequency identification tag (RFID)
  - c) Official individual animal breed registration tattoo accompanied by the breed registry document
7. Completely sprayed or dipped under the supervision of a veterinarian with an approved pesticide at a **concentration to kill ticks** within 7 days of shipment.
8. Acquire a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) from a licensed, accredited veterinarian
  - a) **Required items on the CVI**
    - i. The CVI is issued **10 days** or less before shipment by a licensed, accredited (category II level) veterinarian, and the issue date is recorded on the CVI.
    - ii. List of all animal ear tags in the shipment
      1. Animal description (Age, brands [if present], breed, color, sex, and other unique identifying features)
    - iii. The negative test results for all required pre-entry testing.
    - iv. Statement which indicates the veterinarian inspected and found cattle to be free of external parasites, and supervised the prophylactic pesticide application. Statement required:

*“I personally inspected the animals on this CVI and found them to be free of ticks. They have, under my supervision, been completely sprayed or dipped with an approved pesticide to kill ticks within 7 days of shipment.”*

- v. The following statement is to appear on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) for all livestock entering Hawaii originating from states affected with Vesicular Stomatitis for the duration of the VS outbreaks:

*“I have examined all the animals identified on this certificate within 72 hours of shipment date and found them to be free from signs of Vesicular Stomatitis (VS). During the last thirty (30) days, these animals have not been exposed to VS nor located on a VS confirmed or a VS suspected premises.”*

b) **Required items to be attached to the CVI**

- i. Official test charts for all required pre-entry testing should be attached to the CVI.
9. **\*UPDATE\*** Request an **Import permit** from the Animal Industry Division when copies of the CVI and official test charts are available for review. Once pre-shipment requirements are met, an Import Permit will be issued. The import permit and CVI must accompany the shipment. Documents will be reviewed and permits will be issued daily during business hours. To request an import permit contact the Animal Industry Division:
- a) Email: [HDOA.LDC@hawaii.gov](mailto:HDOA.LDC@hawaii.gov)
  - b) Fax: 808-483-7110
  - c) Phone: 808-483-7100
  - d) Phone: 808-837-8092 (Saturdays, Sundays and State Holidays)

It is the responsibility of the owner or authorized agent of the owner to present a **COMPLETE, LEGIBLE, ORIGINAL** hardcopy of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) which meets the State of Hawaii’s pre-shipment requirements at entry inspection.

## **Post-arrival requirements for Water Buffalo and Bison arriving in Hawaii**

1. At home isolation from other water buffalo or bison is required until post-arrival testing is complete.
2. Newly imported water buffalo or bison must be **tested 60 – 90 days** post-arrival for anaplasmosis, brucellosis, and tuberculosis. An accredited, licensed veterinarian in Hawaii needs to perform the testing and collect samples. Samples should be submitted to the Hawaii State Veterinary Laboratory.