



Re-importing consignments into Switzerland using a Swiss CITES certificate

In certain circumstances, re-importing into Switzerland can be carried out using a Swiss CITES certificate. This option is only possible, however, for consignments that are accompanied by an ATA carnet (or alternatively by a CPD China-Taiwan carnet) and were shipped abroad without any intention of a sale or for consignments that were unable to be imported into the country of destination. For this to be possible, the criteria set out below must be met.

As with regular imports/re-imports, the consignment subject to inspection requirements must be presented at a protected species inspection office by the person making the declaration within two working days of import. A so-called "Passierschein" is issued following the inspection if:

1. the original Swiss CITES certificate is available and the validity period of six months has not expired,
2. the CITES goods (quantity, goods type, species of animal or plant) correspond fully to the goods confirmed by customs on export in section 14,
3. the consignment is accompanied by:
 - a. an ATA carnet or alternatively a CPD China-Taiwan carnet (the number of which must be noted on the Swiss CITES certificate for the category "other"; [CITES Resolution Conf.12.3](#)) or
 - b. an official document certifying that import into the country of destination was not possible (this document must be in one of Switzerland's official languages or in English) and
4. a valid import permit from the FSVO (if required, e.g. for specimens with coral or feathers subject to CITES).

If any of these criteria are not met, re-importing is only possible with a valid CITES certificate from the country of provenance. Consignments that do not meet these requirements will be seized.

Further information:

- If the CITES certificate and ATA carnets / CPD China-Taiwan carnet presented will be used for further exports, explicit mention must be made of this during the protected species inspection. In all other cases, a so-called "Passierschein" is issued once the inspection has been completed.
- Further information on the procedures involved in the protected species inspection as well as maps of where to find the relevant offices can be found on the FSVO website: <https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/en/home/import-und-export/import/importe-artengeschuetzte-tiere-pflanzen.html> → More information → In detail → Species protection inspection