



ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA

12.6.2225 DETERMINING EXOTIC WILDLIFE CLASSIFICATION

- (1) The classification review committee described in 87-5-708 , MCA, shall consider petitions for species classification. Any individual, government agency, or interested group may petition the classification review committee to recommend to the commission classification of a species.
- (2) The classification review committee must make its recommendations based on the best available information and scientific knowledge of the following:
 - (a) the environmental impacts caused by the animal if it is released or escapes from captivity, including ecological and economic impacts;
 - (b) the risk the animal would pose to the health or safety of the public, wildlife, livestock, domestic animals and agriculture; and
 - (c) the ability of a person to readily control and contain the animal in captivity.
- (3) Based on recommendations made by the classification review committee, the commission may classify exotic wildlife to either a noncontrolled, controlled, or prohibited list. The commission shall adopt exotic wildlife classifications as administrative rules, amendments, or repeals according to the Montana Administrative Procedure Act.
- (4) Species of exotic wildlife may not be imported into Montana unless the following occur:
 - (a) the exotic wildlife species has been classified by the commission or by listing in state statutes;
 - (b) the department has issued the required permits for possession of exotic wildlife species classified as noncontrolled, controlled or prohibited; and
 - (c) the person has obtained authorization for importation from the Department of Livestock pursuant to Title 81, chapter 2, part 7, MCA.

Authorizing statute(s): 87-5-704, 87-5-705, 87-5-712, MCA

Implementing statute(s): 87-5-707, 87-5-708, 87-5-711, 87-5-712, MCA

History: NEW, 2005 MAR p. 814, Eff. 5/27/05.