



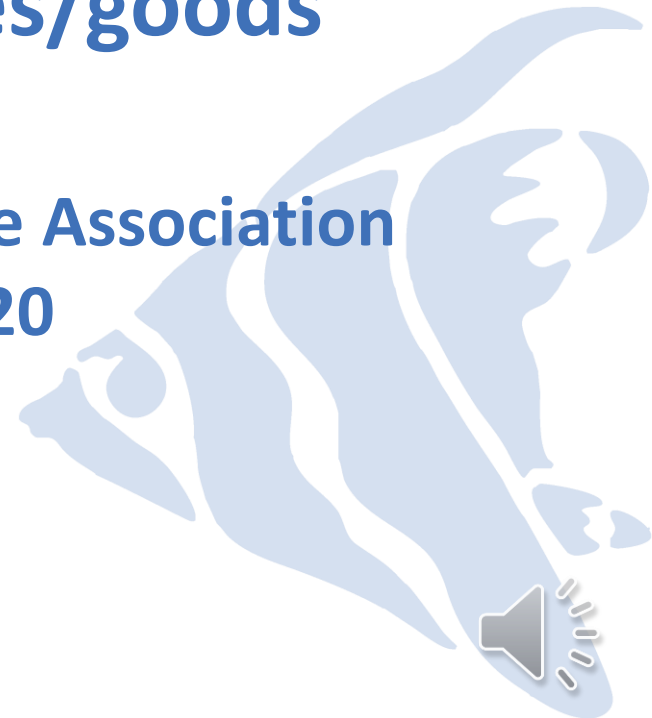
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**Leaving the EU: UK border control
changes as from 1 January 2021:
CITES listed species/goods**

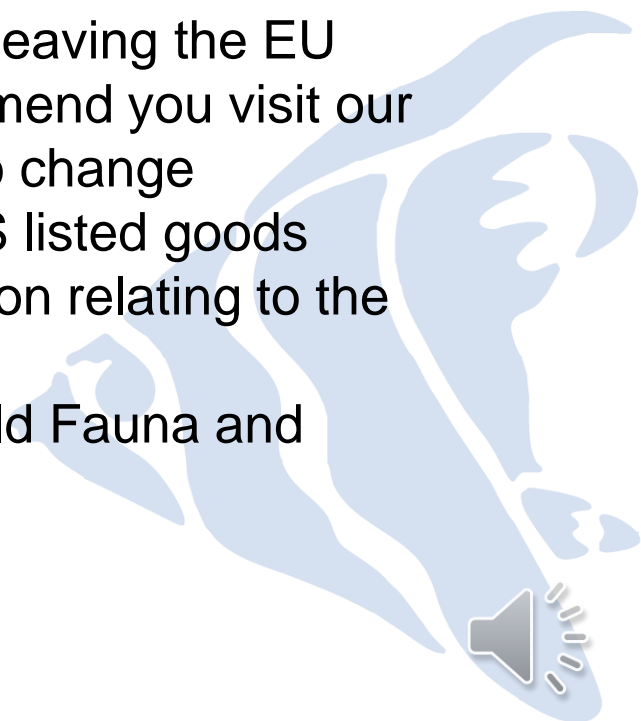
**Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association
December 2020**





Disclaimer

- This guide is intended as a brief summary introduction **only**. For full and detailed information on the UK's Border Operating Model with the EU, the full document is available [here](#)
- Updates on advice issued by Gov.UK will be made available on OATA's 'Leaving the EU hub' on our website. Current advice is available [here](#). We strongly recommend you visit our Leaving the EU hub on a regular basis as requirements may be subject to change
- This guide will only cover border control requirements in relation to CITES listed goods and will not cover the core model (see our Introduction guide for information relating to the core model).
- CITES = Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora



Border Control Requirements for CITES listed species as from 1 January 2021



- On 1 January 2021, the UK's transition period ends, ending the free movement of goods between the UK and EU
- This will result in a full external border between GB i.e. England, Scotland and Wales)* and the EU, resulting in border control changes on the movements of goods.
- This guide will cover border control changes affecting goods covered by international conventions/commitments such as CITES listed goods, which are subject to additional requirements.
- *Arrangements for Northern Ireland will be different due to the Northern Ireland Protocol. This means that Northern Ireland will continue to follow EU regulations due to its linkages with the Republic of Ireland. This will impact on consignments from GB to Northern Ireland and from Northern Ireland to GB. Gov.UK will issue further advice in due course.



Border Control Requirements for CITES listed species



- From 1 January 2021, there will be new import requirements in relation to CITES listed species being moved between the EU and GB, as per requirements for other Rest of the World countries. Note that there will be no staged approach for CITES listed goods and this requirements will apply from 1 January, which are:
 - **They must be accompanied by CITES documentation** which is valid e.g. a UK import permit and an export permit issued by the exporting country.
 - **They must enter GB or Northern Ireland (if moving from GB) via a CITES designated Point of Entry (PoE).**
- The exact import controls that will be required will be determined according to which CITES Appendix the species is listed under.
- To check whether the species you wish to import/export is CITES listed, you can check via the Species+ website (<https://www.speciesplus.net/>). Further advice on CITES import/export permits is available via Gov.UK (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cites-imports-and-exports>).
- CITES permit applications are processed by the UK's Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). Although most applications will be processed within 15 working days, be aware that they could take up to 30 working days.



CITES listed species: 1 January 2021

Location of Checks*



- Imports of CITES listed species/goods must arrive via a designated Point of Entry where the relevant documentation will need to be presented to UK Border Force for their inspection and endorsement. These PoEs are shown on the next slides.
- Moving or importing CITES listed species/goods without a valid permit/certificate will have associated criminal offences e.g. an unlimited fine, a prison sentence of up to 7 years or both.
- Imports of CITES listed live animals, plants or animal products may also be subject to additional sanitary and phytosanitary controls and additional requirements. They may also be restricted to enter/exit via certain Border Control Posts for live animals as listed [here](#).
- Exports from GB to EU will be subject to these same requirements for imports.
- * Further Point of Entry ports may be designated in the future.



UK CITES Designated Points of Entry/Exit as from 1 January 2021: Airports



The following 14 airports are UK CITES PoEs (but you must check that they are suitable to process the CITES listed species/goods that you are importing/exporting):

Belfast International, Birmingham International, Bristol International, Cardiff International, East Midlands, Edinburgh, Gatwick, Glasgow International, Glasgow Prestwick, London Heathrow (Worldwide Distribution Centre), London Luton, London Stansted, Manchester and Southampton International.

UK CITES Designated Points of Entry/Exit as from 1 January 2021: Ports



The following 13 ports are UK CITES PoEs (but you must check that they are suitable to process the CITES listed species/goods that you are importing/exporting):

Belfast Seaport, Port of Dover (Western Docks)*, Eurotunnel (Ashford Waterbrook International Truck Stop)* **, Felixstowe*, Harwich International*, Holyhead, Liverpool Seaforth Container Terminal, London Gateway (Port of London), Plymouth, Poole, Portsmouth International Port*, Southampton ABP, Tilbury (Port of London).

* Roll On Roll Off (RoRo) services available

** CITES documents must be presented for endorsement and a customs declaration made via the CHIEF system before CITES listed goods are transported

UK CITES Designated Points of Entry/Exit as from 1 January 2021: Post Offices

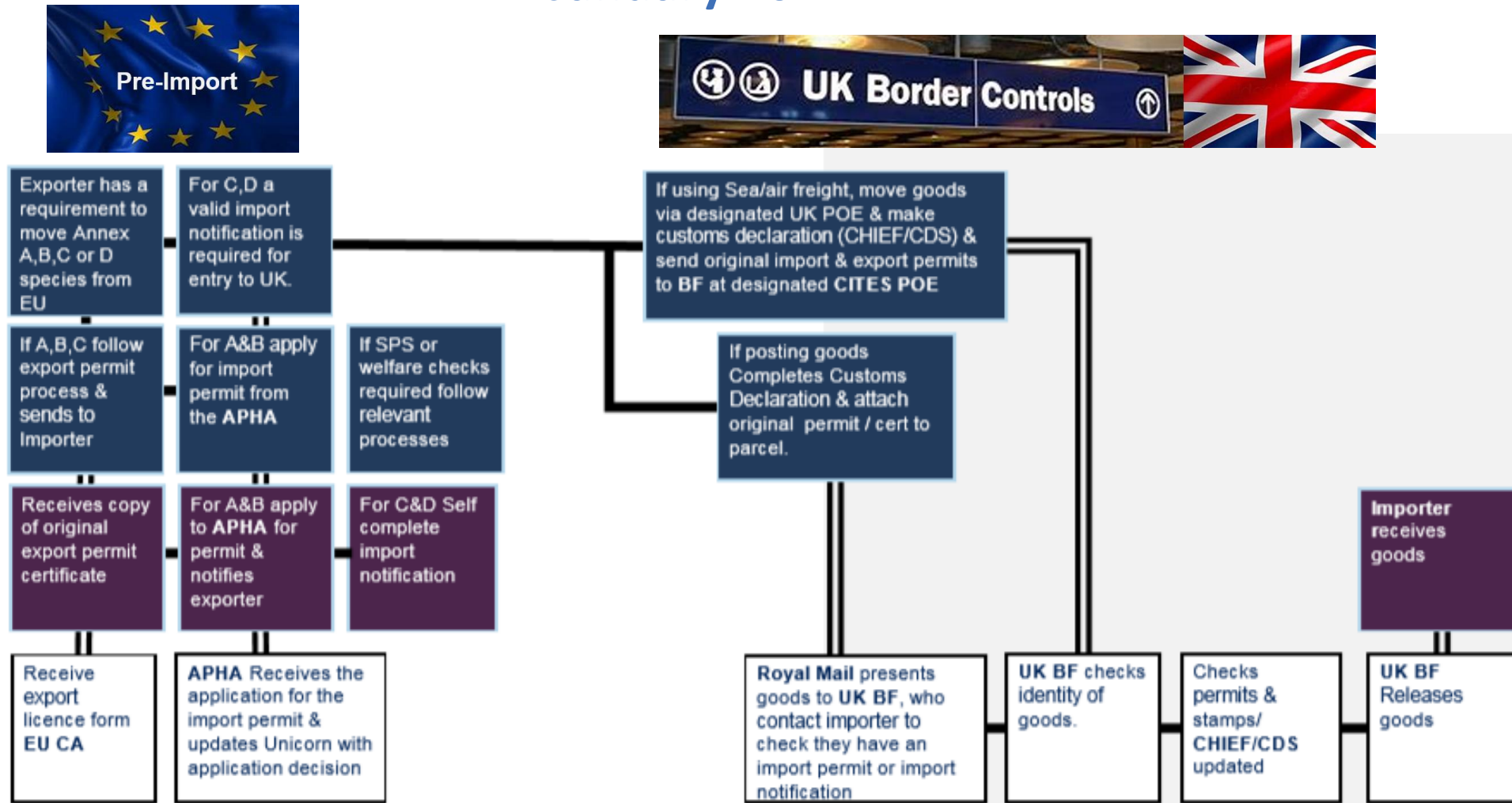


For CITES listed goods imported into the UK by post, there are two designated postal DPEs:

- Coventry International Parcel Post Hub
- Heathrow Worldwide Distribution Centre



Border process for CITES listed species/goods from EU as from 1 January 2021



Key: Process Step — Interactions == Importer ■ Authority □ Exporter ■
 APHA: Animal and Plant Health Agency POE: Point of Entry UK BF: UK Border Force CA: Competent Authority

Process map from UK Border Operating Model. Gov.UK (page 49)



Trading and moving CITES listed species as from 1 January 2021



- Species covered by CITES are listed under the Wildlife Trade Regulations (WTRs) under one of four Annexes i.e. A, B, C and D (either the EU WTRs or UK (GB) WTRs).
- From **1 January 2021**, species listed in Annexes B-D will no longer be able to freely move between the UK (GB) and EU and those in Annex A will be subject to stricter controls. They must also enter/exit via a Designated Point of Entry/Exit with the relevant documents presented to Border Force.
- For species in Annex A and B, imports into the UK (GB) from the EU must be accompanied by an export (or re-export) permit from the EU Member State and an import permit issued by the UK Animal & Plant Health Agency. Exports must be accompanied by an export permit from the UK APHA and will require an import permit from the EU Member State.
- Species in Annex C will require an export permit (from the relevant Management Authority in the EU/GB and an import notification on entry to the GB/EU. Note that guidance is awaited in relation to EU/Northern Ireland and Northern Ireland/EU.
- Species in Annex D will require an import notification for imports from the EU to the UK and from the UK to the EU.

What changes will apply to CITES species/goods exports from GB to the EU (and Northern Ireland) as from 1 January 2021?



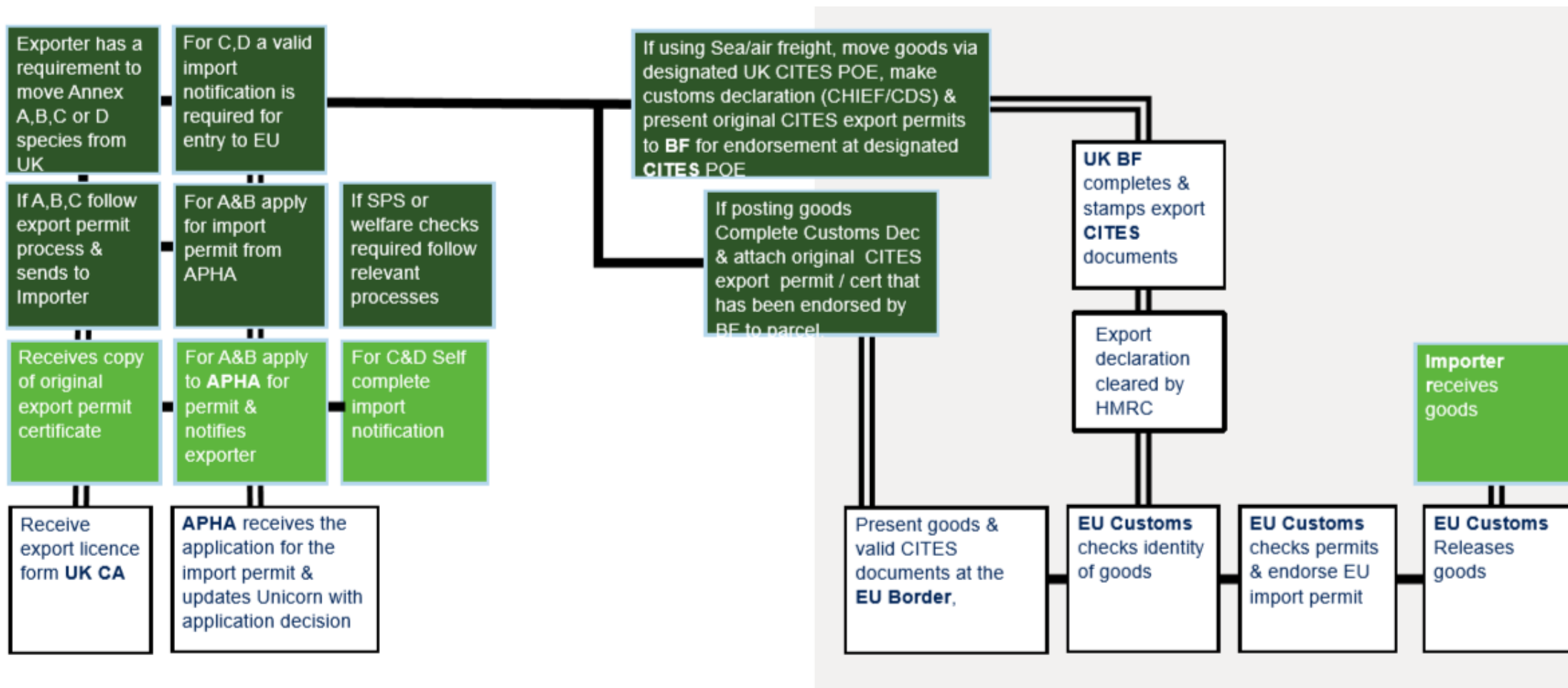
As from 1 January 2021, GB businesses who wish to export species which are covered by CITES and listed under the Wildlife Trade Regulations to the EU will be subject to new requirements.:

- Exports of CITES listed species, their parts or derivatives will be required to:
 - **Be accompanied by valid CITES documentation i.e. an export permit issued by GB* and an import permit from the exporting country**
 - **Leave GB via a designated Point of Entry**
- * Note that the UK Management Authority i.e. the UK Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) will be issuing GB and Northern Ireland permits.

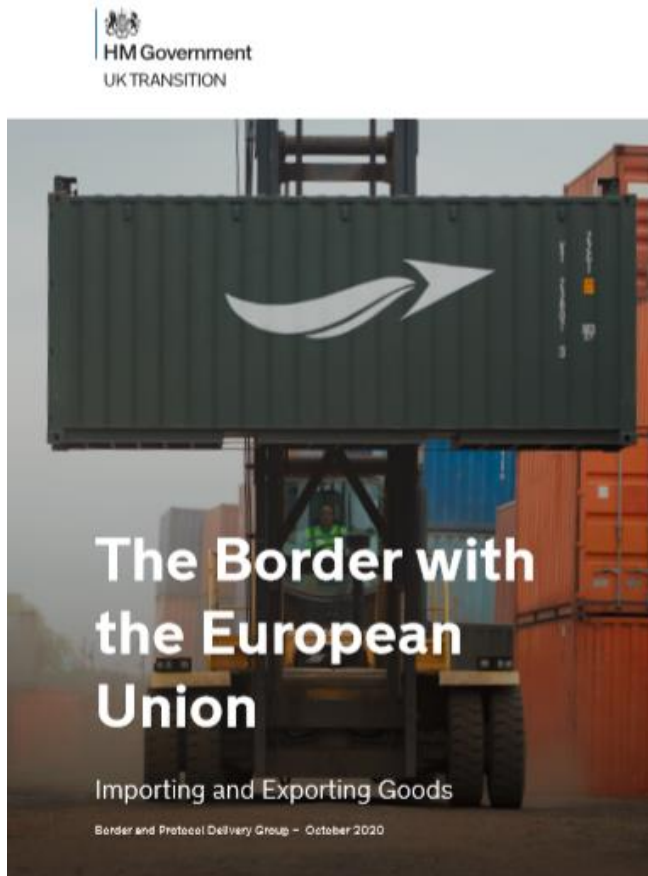


GB CITES Export process map

- As per UK Border Operating Model, Gov.UK



Further Information



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- See OATA's other guides in this series: Introduction, Aquatic plants and Ornamental aquatic animals

OATA: Here for you



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See our other guides in relation to border operating requirements for:

- Introduction
- Plants and plant products (including aquatic plants)
- Live ornamental aquatic animals and veterinary medicines

