

CAZA Policy Re: Animal Transport

Preamble

The transportation of animals is a cornerstone of managed species conservation efforts. It is also a process that can place animals under additional stress and risk. The CAZA Code of Professional Ethics makes the point that members have a moral responsibility to ensure the well being of the animals under their care. When mistakes occur in animal transport it can damage the image of the institutions involved and the Association. It also can negatively impact the staff in the institutions responsible for caring for the animals. Careful preparation in the movement of animals will minimize the impact on the animals being moved and protect the image of the profession.

Policy

CAZA is committed to the ethical, professional and humane transport of animals in a manner that meets all provincial, federal or international animal transportation regulations.

Policy Specifications (Mandatory)

1. All health certificates, tests results, and permits must accompany shipment
2. Phone numbers for both the shipper and receiver must accompany shipment
3. Feeding and watering instructions must accompany the shipment
4. Crates must be marked in a manner consistent with IATA guidelines.
5. Consideration must be given to exterior temperatures. Animals must only be transported by road when the ambient temperature of the trailer, vehicle or container is within the animal's comfort range.
6. When utilizing commercial transporters, the drivers must follow all Department of Transport guidelines.
7. Animals must be fed and watered daily as per instructions (species specific)

Policy Recommendations (Discretionary)

Pre Transport:

1. Determine most appropriate mode of transport
2. Determine animal health, quarantine and permit requirements
3. Select crates that meet current IATA (International Air Transport Associations) Regulations or are otherwise appropriate.
4. If the transport is by air – secure a waybill number.
5. Ensure that recipient is aware of flight schedule, waybill and flight numbers.
6. On going communication with the receiving institution should be maintained to ensure an accurate exchange of information and that proper health certificates and appropriate permits are obtained.

Transport:

1. Food should accompany the animal in the event of a delay in transport
2. If transport is by air considerations including but not limited to the following should be addressed:
 - a. Verify that the airline will take the shipment and that all connections can be made.
 - b. If shipping is in winter, ensure that the cargo hold of the plane designated for that flight is heated, as not all of them are.
 - c. Ensure that plane connections are acceptable.
 - d. Determine whether the safekeeping of animals required to spend long layovers at an airport is satisfactory in the hands of airport personnel, or whether professional assistance (i.e. from the local zoo, or a designated person) is necessary.
 - e. Ensure that arrangements are made for the transfer of the animals from one airline to another in cases of international shipment (may require re-booking, customs & health inspection etc.
 - f. Confirm that the crate will fit into the cargo hold of the aeroplane(s) designated for the flight(s).
3. If transport is by road, considerations including but not limited to the following should be addressed:
 - a. The sending institution will provide instructions detailing feeding, watering and rest schedules.

Post Transport:

1. Verify the animal has reached the final destination and is in good health.

2. Conduct an internal review to determine areas of concern and identify improvements to the process

Notes

Following are links to sites specializing in animal transport regulation:

The latest version of IATA standards is available at:

<http://www.iata.org/ps/publications/9105.htm>

Animal Transportation Association (AATA) Manual for the Transport of Live Animals: Second Edition

http://www.tim-harris.co.uk/aata_manual.html

MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORT ACT –

Commercial Vehicle Drivers Hours of Service Regulations

<http://canadagazette.gc.ca/partII/2005/20051116/html/sor313-e.html>