



Case Studies Of Zoo Miami Songbird Acquisitions for Florida Mission Everglades

Do I need a permit or can I use an exemption?

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speaker notes in italics

I want to thank Sara Hallager for inviting me to speak for this session. I am Rachel Watkins Rogers, Zoo Registrar and Records Coordinator for Zoo Miami in Miami, Florida. This presentation will walk you through a few case studies of how Zoo Miami acquired the songbirds for their new Aviary of North American species.



USFWS Partners...

- Migratory Bird Permit Office (Region 4)
- Permit Biologist replies to your inquiries can vary depending on if you use an exemption.
- Migratory Bird Transfer form 3-202-12
- Regions can vary in their approvals and are given autonomy within their region

The wildlife agencies in Florida have been very helpful and communicative to our zoological community through years of cooperation. Get to know your wildlife agency staff before you need them to foster good communication. We hosted one of the Centennial Celebration weekends of the MBTA and were blessed to host Resee Collins for her event in Miami. Each Regional Office can be different in their decisions or approvals due to their ability to be autonomous within their regional wildlife agency's permit approvals.



Acquisition post rehabilitation of non-releasable wildlife.

- Loan In from USFWS MB – migratory birds are considered protected and must be approved for transfer.
- Sometimes the state must also approve protected species.
- Permit Biologist documents to prove legal transfer to your zoo (enclosures, expertise, and vet letter).
- Reporting needs can vary depending on if you use an exemption.

The wildlife rehabilitators are anxious to place wildlife at a good facility after they are healed. By collaborating on all paperwork there is a consistent contact person for both the rehab facility and registrar's office to ensure everything is done according to the regulations. Some wildlife rehabbers may be less experienced at dealing with zoos than others, so be sure to check with your regional contacts if you feel you are not being told the right needs for the transfer. Please note: It is a best practice with animal records to accession migratory birds as Loan In from USFWS MB (Migratory Bird permit office) generic Species360 mnemonic in ZIMS.

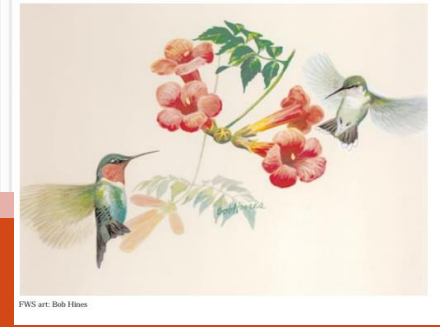
1. Who completes and signs the Acquisition and Transfer Request form, and where do they submit it?

For a Transfer From	To	the 3-202-12 is submitted by	to	and must include (attachments)	Comment
Rehabilitation permit	Rehabilitation permit	No transfer form required	NA	NA	Include in annual report
Rehabilitation permit	Education/Eagle Exhibition permit	Educator/Eagle Exhibitor	Educator's permit office	Veterinarian statement, caging, experience & education information.	Rehabilitator sends veterinarian statement to Education/Eagle Exhibition permittee to submit with their package to their permit office
Rehabilitation permit	Native American Eagle Aviary permit	Eagle Aviary	Eagle Aviary's permit office	Veterinarian statement	Native American Eagle aviaries have priority for nonreleasable eagle acquisition.
Rehabilitation permit	Exempt Institution	Rehabilitator	Rehabilitator's permit office	Veterinarian statement & caging information	Exempt institution sends caging information to Rehabilitator to submit with their package. No institution is exempt from permit requirement for eagles
Rehabilitation permit	Falconry permit	Rehabilitator	Rehabilitator's permit office	Copy of State Falconry permit	Falconry permittee must complete electronic 3-186A
Education permit	Education permit	Both permittees	Their respective permit office	Veterinarian statement, caging, experience & education information.	Sending educator sends vet statement to Receiving educator to submit with their package to their permit office
Raptor propagation permit	Education permit	Educator	Educator's permit office	Caging, experience & education information	Propagator must submit a completed 3-186A.
Exempt Institution	Permitted facility	NA	NA	NA	Transfer of birds from exempt to permitted facilities is prohibited

Migratory Bird and Eagle Acquisition and Transfer Request

USWFS Form 3-202-12 <https://www.fws.gov/forms/3-202-12.pdf>

This chart is very helpful but can be confusing until you use it a few times! In the comments column it addresses the reporting needs or permit type being used.



Acquisition by Scientific Collecting permit form 3-200-7

- USFWS Regions – In Region 4, not all species are purported to be able to be collected from the wild...
- A Federal Migratory Bird Scientific Collecting permit will authorize you to collect, transport or possess migratory birds, their parts, nests, or eggs for scientific research or educational purposes.
- The conditions of a Federal Scientific Collecting permit are very specific. You should review Title 50 Parts 10, 13, and 21.23 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

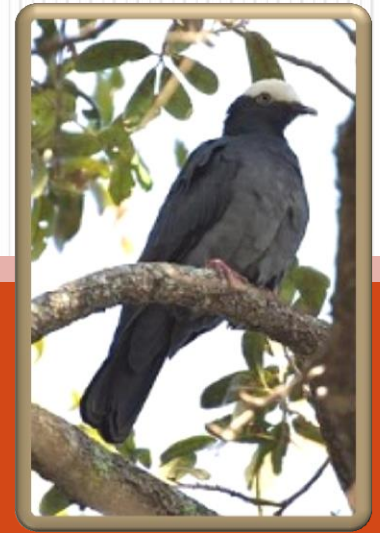
You should review Title 50 Parts 10, 13, and 21.23 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) to make sure you understand what is allowed to prevent a misstep. Each Region can have a little bit different response to your questions or requests. The correct permit form is permit form 3-200-7 (<https://www.fws.gov/forms/3-200-7.pdf>)



Florida Mission Everglades

Zoo Miami's North American wildlife area and a new exhibit at the front of the zoo!

Rehabilitation facility to Zoo Miami:
Columba leucocephala / White-crowned pigeon
21 June 2016



- Florida Keys Wild Bird Center / FLKEYSBRD licensed rehab facility did 'take' from the wild
- Species is also protected by Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission / FL FWCC
- Non-releasable wildlife letter from attending veterinarian
- Added to FWC Protected Species permit.

This species is listed in Florida as protected and also is under MBTA. The source was a permitted wildlife rehab facility and Zoo Miami used one of two (2) of its exemption to receive the bird. Zoo Miami is both a 'public' entity and an AZA accredited. This species is a protected species in Florida.

AZA Zoo to Zoo Miami transfer:
Toxostoma rufum / Brown thrasher
4 February 2014



- In this case the zoo did a donation and this is allowed
- Donation from AZA zoo to AZA zoo using exemption
- Non-releasable wildlife letter from attending veterinarian
- All history from the previous holder is in ZIMS

This bird was held by an AZA zoo before arriving at Zoo Miami. Even though this bird was previously documented as permanent injury, non-releasable a new letter must be prepared documenting the bird is STILL non-releasable. Some birds can recover and release themselves, and this has happened at Zoo Miami with pelicans.

AZA Zoo to zoo transfer:
Cyanocitta cristata / Blue jay
4 February 2015



- Loan In from USFWS MB – specimens are considered protected and must be approved for transfer.
- Loan Transfer from AZA zoo with a permit to AZA zoo using exemptions
- Non-releasable wildlife letter from attending veterinarian
- All history from the previous holder is in ZIMS

*This AZA zoo transferred this bird under their permit and was not donated.
This zoo had a Special Purpose Migratory Bird permit and Zoo Miami used its exemption.*



Rehabilitation facility to Zoo Miami:
Quiscalus quiscula / Common grackle
10 November 2016

- Florida Keys Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Inc. (FLKEYSBRD)
- Loan In from USFWS MB – specimens are considered protected and must be approved for transfer.
- Non-releasable wildlife letter from attending veterinarian

Loan In from - USFWS MB this bird as well as all other rehabbed wildlife must be transferred by the federal form 3-202-12

(<https://www.fws.gov/forms/3-202-12.pdf>)



Summary of points

1. Check if the zoo or rehab facility is permitted.
2. If you use an exemption with a non-permitted facility it must be the same type of facility.
3. Regions vary in their interpretation of the MBTA transfers or what they allow in their Region.
4. Check with the state to ensure you have what you need to prevent any issues.

Summary:

- 1. Check if the zoo or rehab facility is permitted. Reason: Depending on what type of permit will depend on how you can accomplish the transfer.*
- 2. If you use an exemption with a non-permitted facility it must be the same type of facility. Reason: Some exemptions can only transfer to same type of facility.*
- 3. Regions vary in their interpretation of the MBTA or what they allow in their Region. Reason: Each Region has autonomy within the execution of their authorizations.*
- 4. Check with the state to ensure you have what you need to prevent any issues. Reason: If a species is protected or regulated in your state you may need another type of authorization or permit.*

A photograph of two birds, possibly terns, in a body of water. The bird on the left is white with a black cap and wings, while the bird on the right is grey with a black cap and wings. Both birds have orange floats attached to their necks. The background is a blurred natural setting.

THE END

GOT ANY QUESTIONS?

I can be available for questions or discussions about this presentation. This is my contact information and thanks for listening . Please contact Rachél Watkins Rogers, Zoo Registrar and Records Coordinator, Rachel.Rogers@miamidade.gov; Phone: (305) 251-0400, x5084915; fax: 305-378-6381

