

- Unofficial translation -



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Department of Fisheries Notification
On Type and Category of Documents for Import Permit of Fish and Fishery Products

Referring to section 96 of Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015), the competent official shall not permit any importation unless the owner of the vessel or the master of the vessel can prove that the fishing vessel has been granted a fishing license or a license for activities related to fisheries issued by a flag State or a coastal State. The fishing vessel can produce evidence to prove that it has not undertaken IUU fishing. The owner of the vessel or the master of the vessel certifies in writing that the flag State shall certify in due course that the aquatic animals caught in accordance with the regulations of the international organizations concerned.

In order to examine related documents for imported fish and fishery products in compliance with all or certain provisions under the Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015), the Department of Fisheries issues a notification to prescribe type and category of documents for imported fish and fishery products as determines in the appendix of this notification.

This Act shall come into force fifteen days following the date of its publication.

Issue on the of September B.E. 2559 (2016)

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Director General of Department of Fisheries

Department of Fisheries Notification on the Type and Category of Documents Required to Permit the Import of Fish and Fisheries Products

Category I: Bulk Cargo Vessel

Bulk cargo carrier vessels containing fish received by transshipment at sea or in authorized ports, which have not been landed previously, and for which the exact weight per species has not been established. This type of vessel is usually observed in the Fish Inspection Offices in Bangkok, Songkhla, Phuket, and Chonburi.

Documents of the Bulk Cargo Carrier Vessel to be submitted prior port entry:

1. Copy of the not expired vessel registration certificate from the flag state, issued by the respective government agency
2. Copy of a valid transshipment license from the relevant coastal state, RFMO or fisheries management organization, covering the transport area
3. Copy of the official transshipment declaration, containing the name of the carrier vessel and the name of the donor vessel, the transshipment area, species and volume of fish transshipped, and the transshipment period, fully authorized by the government and documented by the observer on board, in case of transshipment at sea. The transshipment document has to comply with the regulations of the relevant states and has to be in compliance with requirements of the respective fisheries management organization
4. Copy of the stowage plan, containing details of the species and volume stowed by name of donor vessel and assigned hold number
5. Copy of the port clearance form of the last port call of the carrier vessel, including information issued by the competent authority, such as the port's name, port state, and departure date
6. Copy of the identification card and/or other legal documents identifying the captain or master or vessel operator, issued by the respective government
7. In case of CITES listed species, copy of the CITES permit

Documents of donor fishing vessel or vessels

8. Copy of the not expired vessel registration certificate from the flag state, issued by the respective government agency
9. Copy of the valid and not expired fishing license from the flag state, coastal state and/or RFMOs covering the respective fishing area where the fish was caught

Required documents to be presented to the inspector on board

1. Originals of the documents 1-7 of the carrier vessel (copies submitted prior port entry)
2. Original logbook, providing details of activities, position, and the route of the carrier vessel
3. Vessel monitoring record or voyage data record (VMS/AIS record), with at least 1 record per hour, of the carrier vessel, covering the period of fish gathering on board, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the relevant state and/or fisheries management organization
4. Original offloading plan, including the date and time of landing, place of destination or product receiver, species and volume of transshipped products, name of the donor vessel or vessels, and respective vessel hold number
5. In case of suspicious or manipulated records, the original installation record or the alteration of the device that shows the vessel position and the VMS/AIS record

6. In case of offloading activities prior to entering the Thai port, the original transshipment declaration at port or at sea.

The officer may request additional documents to complete the inspection

1. Ship's particular
2. Copy of the navigation logbook of the donor vessels with recorded position data for the catch on board (hard copy), e.g. navigation logbook or VMS record or voyage data record
3. Documents showing the modification of hull including the list of modified parts, name and address of the ship yard and duration of the modification, etc.
4. Copy of the invoice for the fish landed
5. Copy of the respective fishing logbook of donor vessels covering all details of the fish transshipped
6. In case of a purse seiner vessel that exceeds 362.8 metric tons and is harvesting tuna in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean (ETP), the NOAA Form 370 (Fisheries Certificate of Origin) must be submitted accordingly

Documents to be presented for accomplishment of import permit

1. Copy of the invoice
2. Offloading plan, including date and time of landing, place of destination or product receiver, species and volume of transshipped products, name of donor vessels, and vessel hold number

Remarks To request an import permit, the importer must be granted permission after inspection and confirmation that no IUU fish is on board

Category II: Fishing vessel

Fishing vessels landing fish which has not been landed previously and for which the exact weight per species has not been established, and which was caught legally in authorized fishing areas, specifically areas of respective flag states, coastal states and/or RFMOs. This type of vessel is usually observed by the Fish Inspection Offices in Phuket.

Documents for a fishing vessel to be submitted prior port entry:

1. Copy of the not expired vessel registration certificate from the flag state, issued by the respective government agency
2. Copy of the not expired fishing license from the flag state, coastal state or RFMO covering the respective fishing area where the fish was caught
3. Copy of stowage plan that contains species and volume stowed
4. Copy of port clearance form of the last port call of the fishing vessel, including information issued by the competent authority, such as the port's name, port state, and departure date
5. Copy of the identification card and/or other legal documents identifying the captain or master or vessel operator, issued by the respective government
6. In case of CITES listed species, copy of the CITES permit

Required documents to be presented to the inspector on board

1. Originals of the documents 1-6 of the fishing vessel (copies submitted prior port entry)
2. Logbook, including details of activities, position, and route of vessel
3. Fishing logbook covering all aspects of the fishing activities on board, especially fishing position as well as the weight of the catch
4. Offloading plan, including date and time of landing, place of destination or product receiver, species and volume of fish and vessel hold number (if applicable)
5. Vessel monitoring record or voyage data record (VMS/AIS record), with at least 1 record per hour, covering the period of fish gathering on board, in accordance with the laws and regulations of relevant state and fisheries management organization
6. In case of suspicious or manipulated records, the original installation record or the alteration of the device that shows the vessel position and the VMS/AIS record
7. Transshipment declaration, in case that volume of fish landing is less than volume of fish catching

The officer may request additional documents to complete the inspection

1. Ship's particular
2. Documents showing the modification of hull including the list of modified parts, name and address of the ship yard and duration of the modification, etc.
3. Copy of the invoice for the fish landed
4. In case of a purse seiner vessel that exceeds 362.8 metric tons and harvesting tuna in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean (ETP), the NOAA Form 370 (Fisheries Certificate of Origin) must be submitted accordingly

Documents to be presented for accomplishment of import permit

1. Copy of the invoice
2. Offloading plan, including date and time of landing, place of destination or product receiver, species and volume of transshipped products, name of donor vessels, and vessel hold number

Remarks To request an import permit, the importer must be granted permission after inspection and confirmation that no IUU fish is on board.

Category III: Neighboring Fishing Vessels (more than 10 GT but less than 250 GT) and Carrier Vessels (all sizes)

Chilled fish which has been landed previously and for which the exact weight and species has been established or has not been landed previously and for which the exact weight has not been established. This type of vessel is usually observed by the Fish Inspection Offices in the provinces of Satun, Ranong, Trat, and Narathiwat.

Documents of the carrier vessel to be submitted prior port entry

1. Copy of the valid vessel registration certificate of the fishing vessel or carrier vessel from the flag state, issued by the respective government agency
2. In case fish has been landed, copy of the document issued by relevant government which including information of name of carrier vessel and name, registration number, fishing license, fishing area, species and volume of each donor vessels cover all fish on respective carrier vessel. In case of fish has not been landed, documents must be submitted as following
 - In case of fishing vessel: 1) copy of valid fishing license issued by government covering the fishing area
 - In case of carrier vessel: 1) valid transshipment license 2) copy of the valid vessel registration certificate of every donor vessel 3) copy of fishing license of every donor vessels covering fish on board, all documents issued by the respective government agency
3. Copy of port clearance, showing information of the last port call, issued by the respective competent authority, including information such as port name, port state, and departure date
4. Copy of the identification card and/or other legal documents identifying the captain or master or vessel operator, issued by the respective government
5. Copy of the stowage plan that contains species, volumes and names of the fishing vessels and respective compartment numbers
6. In case of CITES listed species, copy of the CITES permit

Required documents to be presented to the inspector on board

1. Originals of the documents 1-6

The officer may request additional documents to complete the inspection

1. Documents showing the modification of the hull including the list of modified parts, name and address of the ship yard and duration of modification, etc.
2. Packing list

Documents to be presented for accomplishment of import permit

1. Copy of the invoice

Remarks To request an import permit, the importer must be granted permission after inspection and confirmation that no IUU fish is on board.

Category IV: Land transport by truck or container, sea transport by container vessel, and air freight, for fish previously landed

For any transport vehicle containing chilled or frozen fish, previously landed and for which the exact weight has been established; the fish must be accompanied by a catch certificate. This type of transport is usually observed by the fish inspection offices located at sea ports, airports and at border areas.

Document for importation of fish

1. Copy of Import Permit
2. Copy of Invoice
3. Bill of lading B/L for vessel, Air waybill AWB for air and CMR waybill for land transport
4. In case of CITES listed species, the CITES permit
5. Custom clearance (in case of transport by vessel) issued by relevant government showing information of vessel name, designated port and detail of goods.

The officer may request additional documents to complete the inspection

1. Packing List
2. In case of purse seine vessels that exceed 362.8 metric tons, and have harvested tuna in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean (ETP), the NOAA Form 370 (Fisheries Certificate of Origin) must be submitted
3. In case of tooth fish, sharks and other endangered, threatened and protected fish species, an official species identification certificate