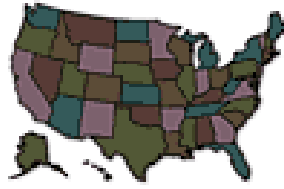


## South Carolina State Laws

### Governing Private Possession of Exotic Animals



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- S.C. CODE REGS. §50-11-1765 - Possession, sale, or importation of live wolves or coyotes unlawful; exceptions.

It is unlawful to sell live wolves or coyotes within the State or to ship or import live wolves or coyotes into this State, except for exhibition or scientific purposes upon the approval of the department as provided by regulations promulgated by the department. A person may not have a live wolf or coyote in his possession without a permit issued by the department.

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- S.C. CODE REGS. §50-16-20 - Importation of wildlife for certain purposes prohibited; investigation; permit.

(A) It is unlawful for a person to import, possess, or transport for the purpose of release or to introduce or bring into this State any live wildlife of the following types without a permit from the department:

(1) a furbearer, a member of the family Cervidae, a nondomestic member of the families Suidae (pigs), Tayassuidae (peccaries), Bovidae (bison, mountain goat, mountain sheep), coyote, bear, or turkey (genus *Meleagris*). Furbearer includes, but is not limited to, red and gray fox, raccoon, opossum, muskrat, mink, skunk, otter, bobcat, weasel, and beaver;

(2) a species of marine or estuarine fish, crustacean, mollusk, or other marine invertebrate not already found in the wild, or not native to this State.

(3) a species of freshwater fish, crustacean, mollusk, or other freshwater invertebrate not already found in the wild or not native to this State.

(B) A permit may be granted only after the investigations and inspections of the wildlife have been made as the department considers necessary and the department approves the possession, transportation, or importation into the State. The department may not issue a permit unless it finds:

(1) the wildlife was taken lawfully in the jurisdiction in which it originated;

(2) the importation, release, or possession of the wildlife is not reasonably expected to adversely impact the natural resources of the State or its wildlife populations.