



Plant and animal species prohibited from entering Groote Eylandt or Bickerton Island

The Anindilyakwa Land Council (ALC) Land and Sea Management Unit and / or the ALC Mining and Environment Unit **assess every request to bring plants and animals to Groote and Bickerton Islands** (except for dogs to be housed in Alyangula). The ALC must provide written approval to transportation companies (Sea Swift and / or Air North) before animals and plants are transported.

The list below includes a number of animal species that will not be approved for entry to Groote or Bickerton Island. Other species not on this list may also be refused entry if assessed as posing a potential threat to the environmental values of the region.

Freshwater fish

Banned species

- Guppy (*Poecilia reticulata*)
- Oscar (*Astronotus ocellatus*)
- Platy (*Xiphophorus maculatus*)
- Green swordtail (*Xiphophorus hellerii*)
- Gourami (*Trichogaster trichopterus*)
- All species listed as illegal to import into the NT: <https://nt.gov.au/marine/for-all-harbour-and-boat-users/aquatic-pests-marine-and-freshwater/list-of-noxious-fish>

Notes

- A person who wants to move fish to Groote Eylandt from another state or part of the Northern Territory requires a S16 permit, issued by the Northern Territory Government https://nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/200207/section-16-permit-to-move-aquatic-life.pdf

The ALC LSM Unit requires proof that a permit has been obtained

- Permitted fish must:
 - not be transported with any water plants or snails
 - be held in an enclosed aquarium
 - not released into any local waterways (even if diseased, sick or unwanted)
 - be relocated with the residents (or humanely disposed of) when they leave the island
- The ALC LSM Unit must provide written approval for the importation of all fish to the island. Air North requires this letter before accepting the animal for transportation

Mammals

Banned species

- Domestic cat (*Felis catus*)
- Domestic goat (*capra hircus*)
- Domestic sheep (*Ovis aries*)
- Deer (all species)
- Rabbit (all breeds)
- Donkey (*Equus asinus*)
- Cattle (all species)
- Horse (*Equus caballus*)
- Pig (*Sus scrofa*)
- Water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*)
- House mouse (*mus musculus*) - unless frozen
- Ferret (*Mustela putorius*)
- Black rat (*Rattus rattus*)
- Brown rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) - unless frozen

Notes

- All dogs entering the island must be surgically desexed and vaccinated

Birds

Banned species

- Senegal dove (*Spilopelia senegalensis*)
- Feral rock dove (*Columba livia*)
- House sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)
- Tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*)
- Spice finch (*Lonchura punctulata*)
- Spotted turtle dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*)
- Indian myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)

Notes

- A resident may only bring one sex of any bird species to the island
- Chickens can be transported to the island, however roosters are not permitted
- Pet birds must not be released (even if diseased, sick or unwanted) and must be relocated off the island with residents
- Individuals require a permit from the NT Government to keep most animals that are native to the NT. Some animals are exempt from this rule:
<https://nt.gov.au/environment/animals/wildlife-permits/native-animals-that-need-a-permit>

If required, The ALC LSM Unit requires proof that this permit has been obtained

Amphibians

Banned species

- Cane toad (*Rhinella marina*)
- Axolotls (*Ambystoma mexicanum*)
- All frog species not native to the NT

Notes

- All frog species not native to the NT are illegal in the NT. You cannot get a permit to import a frog into the NT from other states / territories
- A resident may only bring one sex of any amphibian species to the island
- Individuals require a permit from the NT Government to keep most animals that are native to the NT. Some animals are exempt from this rule:
<https://nt.gov.au/environment/animals/wildlife-permits/native-animals-that-need-a-permit>

If required, The ALC LSM Unit requires proof that this permit has been obtained

Reptiles

Banned species

- Red-eared slider turtle (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)
- Any non-Australian native species of reptile
- Any turtle transported from outside of the NT

Notes

- You must have a permit to keep all turtles in the NT (except for the northern long-necked turtle). The ALC LSM Unit requires proof that this permit has been obtained
- A resident may only bring one sex of any reptile species to the island
- Individuals require a permit from the NT Government to keep most animals that are native to the NT. Some animals are exempt from this rule:
<https://nt.gov.au/environment/animals/wildlife-permits/native-animals-that-need-a-permit>

If required, The ALC LSM Unit requires proof that this permit has been obtained

Invertebrates

- Feed insects and worm farms are permitted
- All other species will be assessed as required

Plants

- The entry of all plants will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and must be transported to Groote Eylandt via Barge only
- All plants with the potential to spread and threaten the environmental integrity of Northern Australia are likely to be refused entry into Groote Eylandt or Bickerton Island
- Plants must only be purchased from Darwin Plant Wholesalers or other approved supplier
- Hay must not be transported into Groote Eylandt or Bickerton Island