



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

The Anindilyakwa Land Council (ALC) Land and Sea Ranger Department **assess every request to bring plants and animals to Groote and Bickerton Islands**. The ALC Rangers must provide written approval to companies before animals and plants are transported to the Groote Archipelago.

The list below includes a number of animal species that will not be approved for entry to the Groote Archipelago. 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

If required, the ALC Rangers will require proof that this 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 Rangers must provide written approval for the importation of all fish to the island. Airlines require 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

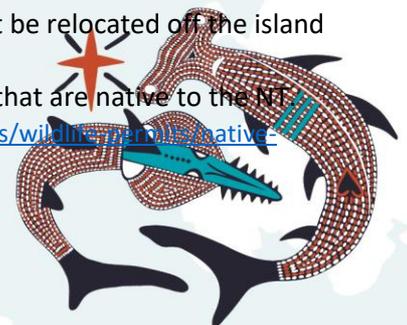
Birds

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 with approval from the ALC Rangers, however roosters are not permitted within residential areas
- 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 Rangers will require 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 Rangers will require 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 Rangers will require 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

