FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

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Import protocol – Personal imports and Baggage

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Directorate of Natural Resources

Falkland Islands Government

Introduction

The Falkland Islands are free from many of the pests and diseases which affect plants and animals in other parts of the world. However, the relatively pristine environment and unique wildlife is vulnerable to the introduction of invasive species, pests and diseases.

This protocol covers the general process for all personal imports and baggage brought into the Islands.

Pre-Arrival

Certain fruits, meats and dairy produce may be carried to the Falklands as a Personal Import without the need of an import permit or sanitary certificate (see Appendix 1). This allows each passenger to carry a maximum of 5kg of goods providing certain conditions are met.

If there are any imports (such as seed potatoes or personal imports of plants etc.) out with the personal allowances an import permit will be required. Individuals may apply for a single import permit and a reduced rate is available for non-commercial imports.

Arrival

All inbound passengers to the Falklands must fill in a Biosecurity/Customs declaration form. This form is handed to and checked by a Customs or Biosecurity Officer prior to being given clearance to enter the Islands.

Completed declaration cards are to be kept by the Biosecurity Unit.

Customs and Biosecurity officers will inspect any declared items at the point of arrival. If there is any uncertainty, the item is to be confiscated for further inspection by the Biosecurity Unit.

There is an amnesty bin at the airport to dispose of any inadvertently imported goods that are not allowed.

Customs and Biosecurity will do spot checks on random passengers to ensure correct and true declarations have been made.

Prohibited or restricted goods that do not comply with the import restrictions must be retained or seized at the time. If goods are retained or seized, a 'Notice of Seizure/Retention' is to be completed at the time. The passenger is informed of the action taken and the reasons for it and told they are able to appeal. The original copy is given to the passenger, one copy to Customs and one to Biosecurity.

The seized/retained items are to be bagged up in a biohazard bag and incinerated. They may be stored in the freezer until a suitable time to incinerate them.

Appendix 1

Personal Imports

Personal Imports must be declared to Customs on arrival and are subject to a biosecurity inspection.

- **Fruit** must be:
  - On the list of permitted fruit
  - Purchased in the United Kingdom or Chile
  - Be commercially packed and labelled
  - Maximum of 5Kg total per person
  - Be visibly free from soil, pests or diseases
  - Be accompanied by a proof of purchase (receipt)
  - Declared to customs upon arrival

❖ Permitted fruits are:

Apple	Grapefruit	Nectarine
Apricot	Grape	Orange
Avocado	Guava	Papaya
Banana	Kiwi	Peach
Bergamota	Lemon	Pear
Cherry	Lime	Pineapple
Clementine	Lyches	Plum
Coconut	Mandarin	Satsuma
Fig	Mango	Tangerine

- Processed fruit & vegetables
  All processed plant material (Dried fruits & vegetables, dried herbs & spices, rice, nuts and canned products) must be in commercially sealed packaging, detailing type of product, processing method, manufacturer and country of origin.

- **Meat, meat products and cheese** must be:
  - **From the EU and bear the EU symbol or from a non-EU approved establishment**
  - **In original sealed packaging**
  - **Maximum of 5Kg per person**

- Processed meats & meat products
  Tinned or highly processed cooked meats or meat products must be in sealed packaging, detailing type of product, processing method, manufacturer and country of origin.

- **Milk & milk products** must be:
  - UHT & in original sealed packaging detailing type of product and clearly marked UHT.

- Processed dairy products
    - Highly processed or cooked dairy products and foodstuffs containing such must be in original sealed packaging detailing type of product processing method, manufacturer and country of origin.

- **Eggs** must:
    - Bear British Lion mark on the shell
    - Be free from feaces & feathers
    - Maximum 12 eggs per person

- **Fish & fish products** must be:
    - In sealed commercial packaging, detailing type of product, processing method, manufacturer and country of origin.

Example of EU symbol