



# Rodeo, Exhibition, or Recreational Cattle Entry Requirements

## Entry Documentation

Pursuant to [3 CCR §831.4](#); [FAC 10610](#)

California requires an **Interstate Livestock Entry Permit** for **all** cattle entering **solely** for rodeo, exhibition, or recreational purposes, including one-time event cattle used in team penning, roping, and cutting events.

To obtain an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit, please call the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) **Animal Health Branch (AHB) permit line at (916) 900-5052**. Permits are valid for 15 days after being issued.

California requires a **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)** for cattle within 30 days before movement into the state.

## Official Identification (ID)

Pursuant to [3 CCR §831.3](#), [§831.4](#); [FAC 10610](#)

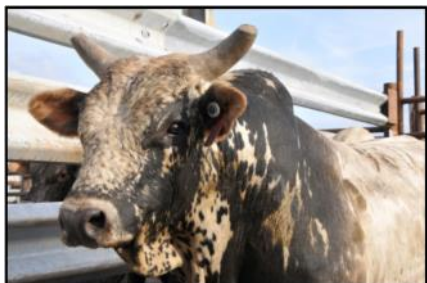
**All rodeo, exhibition, or recreational cattle require official ID, and it must be listed on the CVI.**

Acceptable methods or devices for official ID for cattle include:

- Official brucellosis vaccination (“bangs”) tags
- USDA metal “silver brite” tags
- Animal Identification Number (AIN) tags: All cattle born after 3/11/15 must have tags that start with 840.
- Registration tattoos (OR, NV, and WA only)

Steers and spayed heifers on an approved, one-time event special permit, may be exempt from the official ear tag ID requirement. Please call CDFA AHB Headquarters to inquire about exemptions.

**Note:** Brand inspection requirements remain in effect.



**Animal Health Branch Permit Line:  
(916) 900-5052**

For California entry requirements of other livestock and animals, please visit the following:

[Information About Livestock and Pet Movement](#) or [Animal Health Entry Requirement Interactive Website](#)

## Brucellosis

Pursuant to [3 CCR §753.1](#); [FAC 10326](#), [10327](#)

California requires official brucellosis calfhooed vaccination and a legible brucellosis tattoo for female dairy breed cattle 4 months of age and over and female beef breed cattle 12 months of age and over before entry. Sexually intact cattle of any age moving from a **Designated Brucellosis Surveillance Area** require a negative brucellosis blood test obtained within 30 days before entry and a **Special Entry Permit**.

## Trichomonosis

Pursuant to [3 CCR §820.3](#); [FAC 10610](#)

California requires a negative individual PCR trichomonosis test on bulls 18 months of age and over and non-virgin bulls less than 18 months of age, sampled at least 10 days after last contact with sexually mature cows, and within 60 days before entry. California requires the **CVI** to include the test date, test type, test result, and statement, **“Trichomonosis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin within the past 24 months.”**

**Test results from pooled samples are not acceptable.**

**Exemptions include:**

- ***Bulls used for exhibition, confined to exhibition location without access to mature female cattle, and that will return directly to the state of origin after the exhibition.***

## Tuberculosis (TB)

Pursuant to [3 CCR §758](#); [FAC 9932](#)

California requires a negative TB test for all dairy breeding cattle **6 months of age and older**, and beef breeding cattle **6 months of age and older if** originating from states/zones that are not classified as “TB Free.” A negative test must be obtained within 60 days before movement into the state.

If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station. This will prevent future follow up by CDFA personnel to verify the authenticity and accuracy of the document.

### Animal Health and Food Safety Services Animal Health Branch

Headquarters - (916) 900-5002  
Redding District - (530) 225-2140  
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350  
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500  
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit: [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah)

