

# STATE OF MONTANA

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## MEMORANDUM

From: Dr. Tahnee Szymanski, Administrator & State Veterinarian TS  
Subject: Traceability Requirements for Cattle Imported into Montana  
Effective Date: November 14, 2023

**In general, all cattle imported into Montana must have the following:**

- **Official individual identification (ID),**
- **A certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) with all required ID listed\*, and**
- **An import permit.**

**Additionally, Canadian origin cattle must have a CAN hot iron brand that is 2-3 inches tall and applied high on the right hip OR a CAN ear tattoo.**

### Identification exemptions:

- Animals moving directly to an official MT tagging site – animals are to be tagged upon arrival. Required statement on CVI: “Animals in shipment are moving to an approved tagging site.”
- Beef calves less than 6 months of age with dams – dams must have official individual ID. Please note, sexually intact animals originating from Big Horn County, Wyoming are not eligible for this exemption.
- Beef steers and spayed heifers

### Documentation exemptions:

- Cattle from farm of origin to a [USDA Federally Approved Livestock Market](#) for qualification upon arrival do not require a CVI.
- Cattle from farm of origin to a [USDA Federally Approved Slaughter Facility](#) do not require a CVI if accompanied by an owner shipper statement.
- Sexually intact beef cattle less than 18 months of age do not require ID to be listed on the CVI. Required statement on CVI: “All animals in shipment have official individual ID.”

*\* When a range of tags is listed on a CVI, a minimum of 90% of the listed tag numbers must represent animals in the shipment.*