



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Marine Fisheries
RECREATIONAL COMMERCIAL GEAR LICENSE (RCGL) APPLICATION
INSTRUCTIONS
(REV 2023-12)

This application is to be completed and signed by individuals applying for a Recreational Commercial Gear license. Individuals applying for a license for another under the authority of Power of Attorney must submit a **PHOTOCOPY** of the Power of Attorney and current picture identification.

Provide a **PHOTOCOPY** of one of the following current picture identifications:

- Driver's License; or
- State Identification (issued by DMV); or
- Military Identification; or
- Passport; or
- Resident Alien Card (green card)

A Recreational Commercial Gear License Application:

- If you have moved to the state of North Carolina and have resided within the state for 60 days to six months and consider North Carolina as your permanent residence, you are required to complete the Certification of Eligibility for North Carolina Residency/Domicile.
- Sign the application.

Fees:

- \$70.00 North Carolina Residents + \$1 transaction fee
- \$500.00 Non-Residents + \$1 transaction fee
- Method of payment: Personal check, money order or Cashier check. Make payable to **North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries**. There will be a \$25.00 service charge for returned checks.

You are required to notify the Division of Marine Fisheries of any address or residency changes within 30 days. Incomplete applications submitted without required documentation will be deemed incomplete and returned to you unprocessed.

Mail to: **North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries**
 License Office
 PO Box 769
 Morehead City, NC 28557



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Select One: ☐ New Application ☐ Renew ☐ Update

Existing Recreational Commercial Gear License Number

Select One: ☐ North Carolina Resident
☐ Non-Resident – less than 60 days
☐ Military stationed in North Carolina**
☐ Student in NC School**
** Must provide documentation as proof of residency.

Individual Participant Information

WRC I.D. # (If renewing)	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix
Check One: Driver's License <input type="checkbox"/>	State I.D. <input type="checkbox"/>	Military I.D. <input type="checkbox"/>	Resident Alien I.D. <input type="checkbox"/>	Passport <input type="checkbox"/>
No.	Expire Date / /			
Date of Birth	Primary Residence (State)		E-mail Address	
____ / ____ / ____				
Race	Gender:	Physical Address	Mailing Address <input type="checkbox"/> Check if same as physical address	
	M / F			
Height	Weight	Address 1:	Address 1:	
		Address 2:	Address 2:	
Eye Color	Hair Color	City: State: Zip:	City: State: Zip:	
		County: Country:	County: Country:	
Home Phone:		Business Phone:	Fax:	Cellular Phone:
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Applicant signature
Must be signed to be valid

Date

For those individuals applying for a Recreational Commercial Gear license (RCGL):

As of June 2023, an Estuarine Gill Net Permit will be required for anyone who plan to fish anchored gill nets in estuarine waters. This includes the sounds and rivers, but not the ocean.

Anchored nets, also known as fixed or stationary gill nets, are defined as nets anchored or staked to the bottom, or some structure attached to the bottom, on both ends. To ensure compliance with the Federally issued Incidental Take Permits for sea turtles and sturgeon in the estuarine anchored gill net fishery, a condition of this permit is that the fisher agrees to be observed by the DMF's Observer Program.

To help schedule these observed fishing trips, the DMF developed a "call-in system" called the Observer Trip Scheduling System (**OTSS**) that EGNP holders will have to use if they plan on fishing anchored gill nets in the sounds and rivers for a given week. This system will be piloted in the Fall of 2023; with official use of the system by 2024.

If the fisher ONLY fishes drift, runaround, strike, and/or drop gill nets and NOT anchored (set, fixed, stationary) gill nets, then they do not need an EGNP. Drift nets are defined as nets used to capture fish while being moved along by water current and the net is being actively fished and attended from deployment through retrieval, and runaround nets, including strike and drop nets are defined as nets that are set and then immediately retrieved.