Water
Isolated Wetlands/Non-404 Jurisdictional Permits

What Activities Require This Permit? If impacts to non-404 jurisdictional wetlands classified as Basin Wetlands or Bogs in the North Carolina Wetland Assessment User Manual version 4.1 are proposed, these activities will require a permit from the state of North Carolina. Typical types of projects involve filling in non-jurisdictional or isolated surface waters or wetlands.

What Is The Purpose of This Permit? To protect waters of the state and aquatic resources through citizen compliance with state water quality laws. Mitigation of unavoidable impacts and inclusion of stormwater management features are two of the most important aspects of water quality review. Ditching and draining activities are not permitted for the purpose of altering wetlands hydrology.

Who Issues This Permit? N.C. Division of Water Resources, 401 and Buffer Permitting Branch or Regional Office

How Much Will This Permit Cost?
Less than one acre of wetlands/waters AND Less than 150 feet of streams (whether intermittent or perennial) ("Minor" applications) - $240.
Greater than or equal to one acre of wetlands/waters AND/OR Greater than or equal to 150 feet of streams (whether intermittent or perennial) ("Major" applications) - $570.

What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees? If the Electronic-PCN is used, then there will be instructions sent with an option for e-payment, or a check may be sent via mail.

If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check? N.C. Division of Water Resources, 1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1617


How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? Up to 60 calendar days (upon receipt of a correct and complete application package).

Where Do I Submit My Application? N.C. Division of Water Resources, 401 and Buffer Permitting Branch, 1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC, 27699-1617.

How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid? As stated in the approval letter from the Division of Water Resources, typically 5 years.

Notes/Comments: The Division of Water Resources is the lead agency, however other agencies such as Wildlife Resources Commission may be involved. Possible public notice requirement of not less than 15 days.

Express Option*- The express permitting option is available for this permit type. This option offers quicker review times than the standard traditional review process. Learn more about express permitting.

Please note: The Central Office is no longer accepting Express Permitting applications, however the Washington and Wilmington Regional Offices are still accepting Express Permitting applications.

- For forms or questions about Express Permitting in the Washington Regional Office area, please contact Chris Pullinger at: 252-946-6481 or at chris.pullinger@ncdenr.gov.
- For forms or questions about Express Permitting in the Wilmington Regional Office area, please contact Morella Sanchez-King at: 910-796-7215 or at morella.sanchez-king@ncdenr.gov.

Legal Authority/Statute Reference:
G.S. 143-215.1(a)(6); 143-215.3(a)(1); 143-215.3(c); 143B-282(1)(u); 15A NCAC 2H.1300
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Links:  http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/401-wetlands-buffer-permits

Statewide Contact Information:
NC Division of Water Resources
401 and Buffer Permitting Branch
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1617
Telephone: (919) 807-6300
Fax: (919) 807-6494