

# Marine Fisheries

## Shellfish Sanitation Shellfish Dealer Permit and Certificate of Compliance

**What Activities Require This Permit?** Persons or businesses operating as shellstock dealers that involve any of the following:

- Harvesters selling their catch
- Purchasing shellstock from harvesters
- Re-packing shellstock from certified dealers
- Re-packing shucked shellfish from certified dealers
- Shucking and packing Shellfish
- Depuration of Shellstock
- Wet Storage of Shellstock

**What Is The Purpose of This Permit?** To assure that raw and frozen molluscan shellfish and shellstock are handled, shipped, processed and sold in a sanitary manner under HACCP guidelines as set forth by the US FDA and the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. Dealers are certified as one of the following depending on their process:

- Shellstock Shipper (SS)
- Re-shipper (RS)
- Re-packer (RP)
- Shucker-packer (SP)

**Who Issues This Permit?** Shellfish Sanitation and Recreational Water Quality, Division of Marine Fisheries.

**How Much Will This Permit Cost?** There is no cost for this permit. A dealer's license may also be required to be purchased from the Division of Marine Fisheries. The DMF can be contacted at (252) 515-5500.

**What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees?** Not applicable.

**If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check?** Not applicable.

**Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit?** Applications are typically issued during a courtesy inspection of the applicant's facility. This inspection will detail everything that is needed to become a certified dealer. General information on dealer requirements can be obtained by calling Shellfish Sanitation and Recreational Water Quality at (252) 515-5656.

**How Long Will It Take To Review My Application?** Typically, applications are issued and completed at the courtesy inspection and the permit is issued the same day as the inspection.

**Where Do I Submit My Application?** Applications are typically collected on-site during the certification inspection.

**How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?** Shellfish Certifications are good for up to one year but expire each year on April 30.

**Notes/Comments:** It is important to contact the Shellfish and Sanitation and Recreational Water Quality Section to obtain the general information on dealer requirements prior to the courtesy inspection. In most cases, this will allow the permit to be issued the same day as the inspection.

### Legal Authority/Statute Reference:

GS 113-221.2

**Links:** <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/shellfish-sanitation-and-recreational-water-quality>  
<http://www.issc.org/>

### Statewide Contact Information:

Division of Marine Fisheries  
Shellfish Sanitation and Recreational Water Quality  
PO Box 769  
Morehead City, NC 28557-0769  
Telephone: (252) 515-5656  
Fax: (252) 515-5657