

Marine Fisheries

Estuarine Gill Net Permit

What activities require this permit? This permit is required to use anchored gill nets in estuarine (i.e., internal) coastal waters for either commercial or recreational purposes.

What is the purpose of this permit? To identify fishermen using anchored gill nets in estuarine waters so they can be contacted to schedule a fishery observer aboard their vessel. Observers in this gill net fishery are required to satisfy requirements of Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permits from the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Who issues this permit? N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, License and Statistics Section.

How much will this permit cost? No cost.

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? Contact any N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries License Office. Visit the following link for license sales locations: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/about-division-marine-fisheries/division-marine-fisheries-offices>.

How long will it take to review my application? No review required.

Where do I submit my application? Any N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries License Office or via mail. Visit the following link for license sales locations: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/about-division-marine-fisheries/division-marine-fisheries-offices>.

How long is my permit valid? Permits are valid from July 1 through June 30 of each year.

Notes/Comments: In order to engage in the permitted activity, you must possess a valid Standard Commercial Fishing License, Retired Standard Commercial Fishing License, or Recreational Commercial Gear License along with the Estuarine Gill Net Permit.

Legal Authority/Statute Reference: General Statute GS 113-169.1, 113-221.1; NC Fisheries Rules for Coastal Waters 15A NCAC 030.0501, 030.0502, & 030.0506.

Link: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/dmf-permit-info>

Statewide Contact Information:

NC Division of Marine Fisheries
License and Statistics Section
3441 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC 28557
Telephone: 252-515-5500 or 1-800-682-2632