

Marine Fisheries

Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL)

What Activities Require This License? This license is required to recreationally harvest finfish in the state's coastal waters, which include sounds, coastal rivers, and tributaries, and out to three miles in the ocean. An individual who engages in recreational fishing must have this license.

What Is The Purpose of This License? To license and identify recreational anglers primarily for surveying of catch and effort.

Who Issues This License? (a) The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, License and Statistics Section (b) N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and (c) all agents that are representatives of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission charges a \$5.00 transaction fee for all licenses.

How Much Will This License Cost?

10-day License

State Residents, age 16 or older - \$8, Nonresidents, age 16 or older - \$14

Annual License

State Residents, age 16 or older - \$19, Nonresidents, age 16 or older - \$38

Lifetime CRFL Licenses

Infant Lifetime: younger than one year - \$126

Youth Lifetime: age 1 through age 11 - \$189

Resident Adult: age 12 through age 64 - \$315

Nonresident Infant: \$126

Nonresident Youth: \$189

Nonresident Adult: age 12 and older - \$630

Resident Age: 65 Lifetime: age 65 and older - \$19

Resident Disabled Veteran: 50 percent or more disabled - \$14

Resident Totally Disabled: totally and permanently disabled - \$14

Wildlife Resources Commission Lifetime Sportsman License holders are exempt from purchasing the CRFL if they purchased their license prior to Jan. 1, 2006.

Annual Unified Sportsman Hunting and Fishing Licenses

Resident Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$82

Resident Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License - \$49

Lifetime Unified Sportsman/Coastal Recreational Fishing (Hunting and Fishing Licenses)

Infant Lifetime: younger than one year - \$347

Youth Lifetime: age 1 through age 11 - \$567

Resident Adult: age 12 through age 64 - \$851

Nonresident Adult: age 12 and older - \$1,952

Resident Age: 65 Lifetime: age 65 and older - \$38

Resident Disabled Veteran: 50 percent or more disabled - \$139

Resident Totally Disabled: totally and permanently disabled - \$139

Lifetime Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses

Resident Legally Blind Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License – No charge

Resident Adult Care Home Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License – No charge

Resident Subsistence Unified Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License Waiver– No charge

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What Are My Payment Options for License Application Fees? Check, cash, or credit card.

If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check? If applying in-person for a license at any NCDMF Office, the application and check, cash or credit card are submitted at the time of purchase. If renewing a license by mail the applicant must submit the application and check to the NCDMF, License Office, PO Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557. Please make all checks payable to NCDMF.

Where Can I Get The Application For This License? Contact any N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) License office or any Wildlife Resources License Agent. Visit the following link for DMF license sales locations: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/about-division-marine-fisheries/division-marine-fisheries-offices>. Most licenses may also be purchased online at <https://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com/> or by calling 1-833-950-0575. Applicants for the Resident Legally Blind, Resident Adult Care Home, Resident Subsistence, and Disabled licenses should call the Wildlife Resources Commission.

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? No review required for the Coastal Recreational Fishing License except for the Resident Legally Blind, Resident Adult Care Home, Resident Subsistence and Disabled Lifetime licenses.

Where Do I Submit My Application? Any N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) License Office, or the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. Visit the following link for DMF license sales contact information: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/about-division-marine-fisheries/division-marine-fisheries-offices>. The license may also be purchased from N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission sales agents such as bait and tackle stores or online at <https://www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com/> or by calling 1-833-950-0575.

How Long Is My License or Certificate Valid? Annual licenses expire one year from date of purchase.

Notes/Comments: This license is non-transferable.

Legal Authority/Statute Reference: General Statute 113-174.2, 113-174.3, 113-174.4, NC Fisheries Rules for Coastal Waters 15A NCAC 30.0101(a).

Link: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries>

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