

JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

TANCRED MILLER
Director



February 3, 2026

MEMORANDUM

CRC-26-48

TO: Coastal Resources Commission
FROM: Cameron Luck
SUBJECT: Amendments to 15A NCAC 07J .0204(b)(6)(A), .0204(b)(6B), 15A NCAC 07H .1103, .1203, .1303, .1403, .1503, .1603, .1703, .1803, .1903, .2003, .2103, .2203, .2303, .2403, .2503, .2603, .2703 – Permit Fee Increases

Recent legislative changes codified in G.S. 143B-279.19 (attached) require that State permit fees be adjusted in accordance with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The statute further directs that such fee adjustments occur on a recurring basis, beginning July 1, 2025, and recurring every four years. The calculations are made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Current CRC rules governing permit fees for development within Areas of Environmental Concern establish fixed dollar amounts. Consistent with the requirements of G.S. 143B-279.19, proposed fee updates would increase major development permit fees for private, non-commercial projects from \$250 to \$297, major development permit fees for public or commercial projects from \$400 to \$474, General Permit fees from \$400 to \$474, and Minor Permit fees from \$100 to \$119. The new legislation also overrides G.S. 113A-119.1(a), which sets a dollar limit of \$400 as the maximum fee that the Commission could charge for a permit application.

Accordingly, DCM has identified the following CRC rules as requiring revision to reflect updated permit fee amounts that went into effect on July 1, 2025.

Major and Minor Permits:

- 15A NCAC 07J .0204(b)(6)(A) – Major Development Permit Fees
- 15A NCAC 07J .0204(b)(6)(B) – Minor Development Permit Fees

General Permits:

- 15A NCAC 07H .1103 through .2703 — General Permit rules establishing fee requirements for coastal development activities subject to CAMA, including shoreline stabilization, piers and docking facilities, boat ramps, excavation and dredging activities, utilities, emergency actions, mitigation projects, and related development within Areas of Environmental Concern.

Amendments to these rules are necessary to ensure consistency with state law and to establish a transparent, repeatable framework for future fee updates as required by statute. DCM will



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therefore need to initiate rulemaking to revise the above-referenced provisions to reflect CPI-adjusted fee amounts and to ensure continued compliance with G.S. 143B-279.19 going forward.

Staff look forward to discussing this topic further at the upcoming Commission meeting.



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15A NCAC 07J .0204 PROCESSING THE APPLICATION

- (a) On receipt of a CAMA major development and/or dredge and fill permit application by the Department, a letter shall be sent to the applicant acknowledging receipt.
- (b) Application processing shall begin when an application is accepted as complete. Before an application will be accepted as complete, the following requirements must be met;
- (1) a current application form must be submitted;
 - (2) all questions on the application form must be completed or the letters "N/A" must be placed in each section that does not apply;
 - (3) an accurate work plan as described in 15A NCAC 7J .0203 herein must be attached to all CAMA major development and/or dredge and fill permit applications;
 - (4) a copy of a deed or other instrument under which the applicant claims title must accompany a CAMA major development and/or dredge and fill permit application;
 - (5) notice to adjacent riparian landowners must be given as follows:
 - (A) Certified return mail receipts (or copies thereof) indicating that adjacent riparian landowners (as identified in the permit application) have been sent a copy of the application for the proposed development must be included in a CAMA major development and/or dredge and fill permit application. Said landowners have 30 days from the date of notification in which to comment. Such comments will be considered by the Department in reaching a final decision on the application.
 - (B) For CAMA minor development permits, the applicant must give actual notice of his intention to develop his property and apply for a CAMA minor development permit to all adjacent riparian landowners. Actual notice can be given by sending a certified letter, informing the adjoining property owner in person or by telephone, or by using any other method which satisfies the Local Permit Officers that a good faith effort has been made to provide the required notice;
 - (6) the application fee must be paid as set out in this Subparagraph:
 - (A) Major development permit - Application fees shall be in the form of a check or money order payable to the Department. The application fee for private, non-commercial development shall be two hundred fifty dollars (~~\$250.00~~ \$297.00). The application fee for a public or commercial project shall be four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00).
 - (B) Minor development permit - Application fees shall be in the form of a check or money order payable to the permit-letting agency in the amount of one hundred dollars (~~\$100.00~~ \$119.00). Monies so collected may be used only in the administration of the permit program;

SECTION .1100 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF BULKHEADS AND RIPRAP REVETMENTS FOR SHORELINE PROTECTION IN ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS AND OCEAN HAZARD AREAS

15A NCAC 07H .1103 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00) for riprap revetments. The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00) for bulkheads. Permit fees shall be paid by check or money order payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note:

*Authority G.S. 113-229; 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124;
Eff. March 1, 1984;
Amended Eff. October 5, 2009; September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; March 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. April 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.*

SECTION .1200 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PIERS AND DOCKING FACILITIES IN ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS AND OCEAN HAZARD AREAS



15A NCAC 07H .1203 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; Eff. March 1, 1984;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; March 1, 1991; Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .1300 – GENERAL PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT BOAT RAMPS ALONG ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST SHORELINES AND INTO ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS

15A NCAC 07H .1303 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107(a); 113A-107(b); 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-124; Eff. March 1, 1984;*
Amended Eff. May 1, 1990;
RRC Objection due to ambiguity Eff. May 19, 1994;
Amended Eff. August 1, 1998; July 1, 1994;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

SECTION .1400 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GROINS IN ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS AND OCEAN HAZARD AREAS

15A NCAC 07H .1403 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107(a); 113A-107(b); 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-124(c); Eff. March 1, 1984;*
Temporary Amendment Eff. December 1, 2002;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2009; August 1, 2004; April 1, 2003;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

SECTION .1500 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR EXCAVATION WITHIN OR CONNECTING TO EXISTING CANALS, CHANNELS, BASINS, OR DITCHES IN ESTUARINE WATERS, PUBLIC TRUST WATERS, AND COASTAL SHORELINE AECS

15A NCAC 07H .1503 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-229; 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; Eff. July 1, 1984;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; March 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .1600 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AERIAL AND SUBAQUEOUS UTILITY LINES WITH ATTENDANT STRUCTURES IN COASTAL WETLANDS, ESTUARINE WATERS, PUBLIC TRUST WATERS AND ESTUARINE SHORELINES

15A NCAC 07H .1603 PERMIT FEE



The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113-229(c1); Eff. March 1, 1985;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; March 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

SECTION .1700 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR EMERGENCY WORK REQUIRING A CAMA AND/OR DREDGE AND FILL PERMIT

15A NCAC 07H .1703 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-229(c1); 113A-107(a),(b); 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-119; Eff. November 1, 1985;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2002; March 1, 1991; October 1, 1993;
Readopted Eff. July 1, 2022.

SECTION .1800 – GENERAL PERMIT TO ALLOW BEACH BULLDOZING IN THE OCEAN HAZARD AEC

15A NCAC 07H .1803 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-229(c1); 113A-107; 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; Eff. December 1, 1987;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; March 1, 1991; Readopted Eff. April 1, 2022.

SECTION .1900 – GENERAL PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR TEMPORARY STRUCTURES WITHIN THE ESTUARINE AND OCEAN SYSTEMS AEC

15A NCAC 07H .1903 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-229(c1); 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; Eff. March 1, 1989;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; March 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. July 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .2000 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR AUTHORIZING MINOR MODIFICATIONS AND REPAIR TO EXISTING PIER/MOORING FACILITIES IN ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS AND OCEAN HAZARD AREAS

15A NCAC 07H .2003 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ \$474.00). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; Eff. October 1, 1993;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;



Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .2100 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SHEETPILE SILLS FOR SHORELINE PROTECTION IN ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS AND OCEAN HAZARD AREAS

15A NCAC 07H .2103 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; *Eff. June 1, 1994;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .2200 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FREESTANDING MOORINGS AND BIRD NESTING POLES IN ESTUARINE WATERS AND PUBLIC TRUST AREAS AND OCEAN HAZARD AREAS

15A NCAC 07H .2203 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; *Eff. February 1, 1996;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .2300 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING BRIDGES AND CULVERTS IN ESTUARINE WATERS, ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST SHORELINES, PUBLIC TRUST AREAS, AND COASTAL WETLANDS

15A NCAC 07H .2303 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; *Eff. June 1, 1996;*
Amended Eff. May 1, 2010; September 1, 2006; August 1, 2000; Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.

SECTION .2400 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR PLACEMENT OF RIPRAP REVETMENTS FOR WETLAND PROTECTION IN ESTUARINE AND PUBLIC TRUST WATERS

15A NCAC 07H .2403 PERMIT FEE

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; *Eff. August 1, 2000;*
Amended Eff. September 1, 2006;
Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.

SECTION .2500 – EMERGENCY GENERAL PERMIT



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252.515.5400

15A NCAC 07H .2503 PERMIT FEE

The standard permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~) has been waived for this General Permit.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118(f); 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; Temporary Adoption Eff. October 2, 1999; Temporary Adoption Expired on July 28, 2000; Eff. April 1, 2001; Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; Readopted Eff. July 1, 2022; Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.*

SECTION .2600 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MITIGATION BANKS AND IN-LIEU FEE MITIGATION PROJECTS**15A NCAC 07H .2603 PERMIT FEE**

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119.1; Eff. October 1, 2004; Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022.*

SECTION .2700 – GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF MARSH SILLS**15A NCAC 07H .2703 PERMIT FEE**

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of four hundred dollars (~~\$400.00~~ ~~\$474.00~~). This fee shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the Department of Environmental Quality.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-118.1; 113A-119; 113A-119.1; 113A-124; Temporary Adoption Eff. June 15, 2004; Eff. April 1, 2005; Amended Eff. September 1, 2006; Readopted Eff. October 1, 2022; Amended Eff. January 1, 2024.*



§ 143B-279.19. Quadriennial adjustment of certain fees and rates.

(a) Adjustment for Legislatively Mandated Salaries and Benefits. - Beginning July 1, 2025, and every four years thereafter, the Department shall adjust the fees and rates imposed pursuant to the statutes listed in this subsection in accordance with the Consumer Price Index computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics during the prior two bienniums. The adjustment for per transaction rates shall be rounded to the nearest dollar (\$1.00):

- (1) G.S. 74-54.1.
- (2) G.S. 90A-42.
- (3) G.S. 90A-47.4.
- (4) G.S. 113A-54.2.
- (5) G.S. 113A-119.1.
- (6) G.S. 130A-291.1.
- (7) G.S. 130A-294.1.
- (8) G.S. 130A-295.8.
- (9) G.S. 130A-310.9.
- (10) G.S. 130A-310.39.
- (11) G.S. 130A-310.76.
- (12) G.S. 130A-328(b).
- (13) G.S. 130A-328(c).
- (14) G.S. 143-215.3D.
- (15) G.S. 143-215.10G.
- (16) G.S. 143-215.28A
- (17) G.S. 143-215.94C.
- (18) G.S. 143-215.119.
- (19) G.S. 143-215.125A.
- (20) G.S. 143B-279.13.

(b) Rulemaking Exemption. - The fee adjustments required by this section are not subject to the requirements of Article 2A of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

(c) Consultation and Publication. - Notwithstanding any provision of G.S. 12-3.1 to the contrary, prior to implementing an adjustment pursuant to subsection (a) of this section the Department must, no later than 90 days prior to the end of the fiscal biennium, (i) consult with the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources, (ii) report the proposed fee adjustments to the chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources, the chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources, and the Fiscal Research Division, and (iii) publish notice of the fees that will be in effect in the offices of the Department and on the Department's website. After making the adjustment, the Department shall notify the Revisor of Statutes, who shall adjust the amounts in statute.

(d) Effective Date; Grandfathering. - Any adjustment to fees or rates under this section applicable to an application or request for a permit, certification, or other Department approval submitted to the Department is only applicable to an application or request for a permit, certification, or other Department approval submitted to the Department on or after the effective date of the fee or rate adjustment. No adjustment to fees or rates under this section applies to an application or request for a permit, certification, or other Department approval submitted to the Department prior to the effective date of the fee or rate adjustment. (2023-134, s. 12.14(p).)