

# Marine Fisheries

## Turtle Excluder Devices in The Atlantic Ocean (Permit to Waive The Requirement to Use)

**What Activities Require This Permit?** The use of shrimp trawls without turtle excluder devices (TEDs) in the Atlantic Ocean between Browns and Rich's Inlets from April through November. Tow times are substituted for TEDs due to heavy algae growth.

**What Is The Purpose Of This Permit?** To identify the commercial fishermen involved in shrimp trawl fishery so that the interactions of sea turtles with shrimp trawl gear can be monitored and observers can be dispatched to accompany them. Observer coverage is required by a National Marine Fisheries Service Permit and is usually provided by the division.

**Who Issues This Permit?** N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, License and Statistics Section.

**How Much Will This Permit Cost?** There is no cost for this permit.

**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 An Application For This Permit?** Contact any Division of Marine Fisheries license office. Visit the following link for contact information: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/dmf-offices>.

**How Long Will It Take To Review My Application?** The Permit is issued to qualified fishermen holding a Standard Commercial Fishing License (SCFL) or Retired Standard Commercial Fishing License (RSCFL) immediately.

**Where Do I Submit My Application?** Any N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries License Office. Visit the following link for license sales contact information: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/dmf-offices>.

**How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?** The permit is valid from the time the use of tow times instead of TEDs is allowed by proclamation (may be as early as April 1) through November of each year and must be renewed annually.

**Notes/Comments:** Contact NCDMF Fisheries Management staff at the Wilmington Regional Office for details. The permit exempts the use of TEDs but limits shrimp trawl tow times, requires reporting of sea turtle interactions, taking observers if asked and other stipulations.

**Legal Authority/Statute Reference:** NC Fisheries Rules for Coastal Waters 15A NCAC 30.0500, 30.0501(6) and 30-0503(d).

**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) 726-7021 or 1-800-682-2632