

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

**15A NCAC 07H .1301 PURPOSE**

A permit under this Section shall allow for the construction of boat ramps along estuarine and public trust shorelines and into estuarine and public trust waters AECs according to the authority provided in Subchapter 07J .1100 and according to the Rules in this Section. This permit shall not apply to oceanfront shorelines or to waters and shorelines adjacent to the Ocean Hazard AEC with the exception of those shorelines that feature characteristics of the Estuarine Shoreline AEC. Such features include the presence of wetland vegetation, lower wave energy, and lower erosion rates than the adjacent Ocean Erodible Area.

*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. April 1, 2003; August 1, 2000.*

**15A NCAC 07H .1302 APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

(a) An applicant for a General Permit under this Subchapter shall contact the Division of Coastal Management and request approval for development. The applicant shall provide information on site location, dimensions of the project area, and his name and address.

(b) The applicant shall provide:

- (1) confirmation that a written statement has been obtained signed by the adjacent riparian property owners indicating that they have no objections to the proposed work; or
- (2) confirmation that the adjacent riparian property owners have been notified by certified mail of the proposed work. The notice shall instruct adjacent property owners to provide written comments on the proposed development to the Division of Coastal Management within ten days of receipt of the notice, and, indicate that no response shall be interpreted as no objection. DCM staff shall review all comments and determine, based on their relevance to the potential impacts of the proposed project, if the proposed project can be approved by a General Permit. If DCM staff determines that the project exceeds the guidelines established by the General Permit Process, DCM shall notify the applicant that he must submit an application for a major development permit.

(c) No work shall begin until an on-site meeting is held with the applicant and appropriate Division of Coastal Management representative so that the proposed boat ramp alignment may be appropriately marked. Written authorization to proceed with the proposed development may be issued during this visit. Construction of the boat ramp structure shall be completed within 120 days of this visit or the general authorization shall expire.

*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. August 1, 2007; September 1, 2006; January 1, 1990.*

**15A NCAC 07H .1303 PERMIT FEE**

The applicant shall pay a permit fee of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) by check or money order payable to the Department.

*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.*

**15A NCAC 07H .1304 GENERAL CONDITIONS**

(a) Structures authorized by this permit shall be non-commercial boat ramps constructed of acceptable material and conforming to the standards herein.

(b) Individuals shall allow authorized representatives of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to make periodic inspections at any time deemed necessary in order to be sure that the activity being performed under authority of this general permit is in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed herein.

(c) There shall be no unreasonable interference with navigation or public use of the waters during or after construction.

(d) This permit will not be applicable to proposed construction where the Department has determined, based on an initial review of the application, that notice and review pursuant to G.S. 113A-119 is necessary because there are unresolved questions concerning the proposed activity's impact on adjoining properties or on water quality; air quality; coastal wetlands; cultural or historic sites; wildlife; fisheries resources; or public trust rights.

(e) This permit does not eliminate the need to obtain any other required state, local, or federal authorization.

(f) Development carried out under this permit must be consistent with all local requirements, AEC rules, and local land use plans current at the time of authorization.

*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.

#### **15A NCAC 07H .1305 SPECIFIC CONDITIONS**

- (a) Boat ramps shall be no wider than 15 feet and shall not extend more than 20 feet waterward of the normal high water level or normal water level.
- (b) Excavation and ground disturbing activities above and below the normal high water level or normal water level will be limited to that absolutely necessary to establish adequate ramp slope and provide a ramp no greater in size than specified by this general permit.
- (c) Placement of fill materials below normal high water level, or normal water level, will be limited to the ramp structure and any associated riprap groins. Boat ramps may be constructed of concrete, wood, steel, clean riprap, marl, or any other suitable equivalent materials approved by the Division of Coastal Management. No coastal wetland vegetation shall be excavated or filled at any time during construction.
- (d) The permit set forth in this Section allows for up to a six-foot wide launch access dock (fixed or floating) immediately adjacent to a new or existing boat ramp. The length shall be limited to the length of the permitted boat ramp (with a maximum length of 20 feet waterward of the normal high water level or normal water level). No permanent slips are authorized by this permit.
- (e) Groins shall be allowed as a structural component on one or both sides of a new or existing boat ramp to reduce scouring. The groins shall be limited to the length of the permitted boat ramp (with a maximum length of 20 feet waterward of the normal high water level or normal water level).
- (f) The height of sheetpile groins shall not exceed one foot above normal high water level or normal water level and the height of riprap groins shall not exceed two feet above normal high water level or normal water level.
- (g) Riprap groins shall not exceed a base width of five feet.
- (h) Material used for groin construction shall be free from loose dirt or any other pollutant. Riprap material must be of sufficient size to prevent its movement from the approved alignment by wave action or currents.
- (i) "L" and "T" sections shall not be allowed at the end of groins.
- (j) Groins shall be constructed of granite, marl, concrete without exposed rebar, timber, vinyl sheet pile, steel sheet pile, or other suitable equivalent materials approved by the Division of Coastal Management.
- (k) Boat ramps and their associated structures authorized under this permit shall not interfere with the access to any riparian property and shall have a minimum setback of 15 feet between any part of the boat ramp or associated structures and the adjacent property owners' areas of riparian access. The minimum setbacks provided in the rule may be waived by the written agreement of the adjacent riparian owner(s), or when two adjoining riparian owners are co-applicants. Should the adjacent property be sold before construction of the boat ramp or associated structures commences, the applicant shall obtain a written agreement with the new owner waiving the minimum setback and submit it to the Division of Coastal Management prior to initiating any development of the boat ramp or associated structures authorized under this permit.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 113A-107(a); 113A-107(b); 113A-113(b); 113A-118.1; 113A-124;  
Eff. August 1, 2014; March 1, 1984.