

North Carolina

North Carolina Board of Agriculture

The North Carolina Board of Agriculture is authorized to adopt reasonable regulations to eradicate, repress and prevent the spread of plant pests (i) within the State, (ii) from within the State to points outside the State, and (iii) from outside the State to points within the State. It may also adopt reasonable regulations to prevent the introduction of dangerous plant pests to the State, and for governing common carriers in transporting plants, articles or things liable to harbor such pests. In order to control plant pests, the Board is authorized to adopt regulations governing the inspection, certification and movement of nursery stock.

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has the authority to control, eradicate, and regulate noxious aquatic weeds to prevent injury to property and beneficial plants and animals. The Department of Environmental Quality has the authority to designate a plant as a noxious aquatic weed if: it grows in or is closely associated with the aquatic environment; exhibits characteristics of obstructive nature and either massive productivity or choking density; and is or may become a threat to public health or safety or to existing or new beneficial uses of the waters.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

The North Carolina Department and the Wildlife Resources Commission is charged with stewardship of the marine and estuarine and wildlife resources of the State.

	Provision Summary	Citation
Invasive Plants	The Board of Agriculture has the sole authority to prohibit the planting, cultivation, harvesting, disposal, handling, or movement of plants. This provision does not prevent the designation of plants as noxious aquatic weeds.	N.C. Gen. Stat. § 106-421.1
	List of noxious weeds.	15A NC Admin. Code. § 2G.0602
Invasive Animals	It shall be unlawful to willfully release domestically raised fish into the waters of the State, other than in private ponds without written permission of the Wildlife Resources Commission, or the Division of Marine Fisheries of the Department of Environmental Quality.	N.C. Gen. Stat. § 106-762
	Exempts certain species from the aquaculture law prohibiting introduction of exotic species including bluegill, some sunfish, some crappie, some bass, some catfish, golden shiner, fathead	N.C. Gen. Stat. § 106-761

	minnow, some trout, common carp, crayfish (procambarus).	
Use of Bait (unrelated to commercial licensing)	It is unlawful, without first obtaining a permit: to (1) place into the coastal fishing waters of the state non-native live marine and estuarine organisms; (2) place live native marine and estuarine organisms that originated outside the State's boundaries; (3) hold or maintain any live marine or estuarine organism imported into the state in a quarantine or isolation system for live bait or use in an aquaculture operation; (4) sell for bait any live marine or estuarine organism imported into the state.	15A N.C. Admin. Code § 31.0104
	It is illegal to transport live freshwater nongame fishes, or live game fishes in excess of limit, or fish eggs without having a permit	15A N.C. Admin. Code § 10C.0209(a)
	It is illegal to stock any life stage of any species of fish in the inland fishing waters of this state without a permit with the exception of (d)(1) bait affixed to hook and line.	15A N.C. Admin. Code § 10C.0209(b)