



# UNAPPROVED MARKERS, BUOYS AND NAVIGATIONAL AIDS

**No marker, buoy, or navigational aid of any kind may be placed in the waters of North Carolina without authorization from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, except when superseded by federal authority.**

## **Unapproved Markers, Buoys and Navigational Aids placed in the waters of North Carolina:**

- Confuse boaters.
- Create hazards to navigation.
- Constrict waterways.
- Subject to being removed by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.
- Violate state law/rule.

## **Approved Markers, Buoys and Navigational Aids:**

- Do not protect personal property.
- Do not protect against erosion.
- Should not be moved, removed, or tampered with in any manner.

## **Legal Requirements**

### **NCGS 75A-15**

Rules on Water Safety; Adoption of the United States Aids to Navigation System (USATONS).

(c1) It is unlawful to place or maintain any marker of the sort covered by the marking system in the waters of North Carolina that does not conform to or is in violation of the marking system and the implementing rules of the Commission.

### **15A NCAC 10F .0301 General Provisions**

(h) Enforcement. If an agent of the Commission discovers markers and navigational aids that do not conform to USATONS standards, that are placed without lawful authority or permission, or that fail to mark the defined regulated area, written notice shall be served upon the individuals responsible for the improper placement of the markers or navigational aids. Failure to take action to correct the deficiency within 10 days, in accordance with the written notice, shall be a violation of this Rule.

## **How to Report Violations**

**Unsafe boating violations, along with any other violations, should be reported 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to:**

**N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission  
Law Enforcement Division  
1-800-662-7137**

