

Summary

The DNR plans to launch a new electronic license system (ELS), which will include a mobile phone app, in spring 2025. The ELS is the primary system that issues angling and hunting licenses and permits to residents of Minnesota and other states. The system also registers and titles outdoor recreation equipment, including watercraft and off-highway vehicles. The new, modern system will make it easier for customers to buy licenses, register their harvests and sign up for safety training.

Current Method



Purchasing a license, validation and registration White-tail deer as an example:

Coming in 2025

Customer purchases a license:

- In-person or at an agent
- Online

Purchase a License



Customer purchases a license:

- Using the DNR app
- Online or in-person at an agent

At the kill site, hunter validates deer using the durable tag

Validation



At the kill site, hunter validates deer one of two ways:

- Using the DNR app
- On their paper license printed by the agent or at home

Registration

- Within 48 hours or before the deer is processed, the deer must be registered one of three ways:
 - Online
 - By phone
 - In-person at an agent

Registration

Registration

- Using the DNR app, the deer is already registered thru the validation
- Using a paper license, within 48 hours or before the deer is processed, the deer must be registered one of two ways:
 - Online
 - Return to an agent to complete

Other items



Customer purchases other items:

- Using the DNR app
- Online or in-person at an agent

Items that needed a signature will be moved to an electronic license on the app and a signature will no longer be required.



Special fish management such as sturgeon will move from a durable tag to an endorsement. They will validate and register upon possession.



Trail passes (ski, ATV, horse, snowmobile) and endorsements will be available using the DNR app, or Online or in-person at an agent