



Dealer FAQ: Preparing for the 2026 Licensing Transition (Mobile Licensing & Equipment Changes)

What's changing for the 2026 license year?

Beginning with the 2026 license year, customers will have the option to carry and display their licenses digitally through:

- **myWDFW app** (hunters & anglers)
- **Fish Washington app** (anglers only)

Paper licenses will still be available, but customers must choose **either mobile or paper** at the start of the license year. **Durable stock paper will no longer be used beginning July 8, 2026; all paper licenses and tags will be printed on standard paper.**

Launch date: December 1, 2025

Do customers have to choose mobile or paper?

Yes. Customers must select **mobile or paper** before making their first purchase of the license year.

How do dealers record the customer's choice?

The licensing system will prompt dealers to verify and record the customer's selection.

Can customers switch from mobile back to paper?

No. Once a customer chooses mobile, they must remain mobile for the entire license year.

Can customers switch from paper to mobile?

Yes, but only if:

- Their tags or catch record cards **have not been used**, and
- The switch is processed **by WDFW**, not in-store.

If a customer chooses mobile, will anything be printed?

No. Mobile license holders will not receive a printed license. They must download the **myWDFW** or **Fish Washington** app to view and display their privileges.

Who should dealers contact if a customer has questions, they can't answer about the mobile apps or the transition away from durable stock paper?

Dealers should direct customers to **WDFW Customer Service** for questions related to the myWDFW or Fish Washington apps, mobile license display, account access, technical or account-specific issues. Customer Service can also address questions about the transition away from durable stock paper and what customers should expect for the 2026 license year.

WDFW Customer Service:

360-902-2464 | Licensing@dfw.wa.gov

Dealers should not attempt to troubleshoot app functionality or provide guidance beyond what is included in official WDFW materials.

What should dealers tell customers about durable stock paper going away?

Durable stock paper will no longer be used beginning July 8, 2026. After that date, all paper licenses and tags will be printed on standard paper using dealer-owned printers. Customers who choose mobile licensing will not receive any printed materials. Dealers should remind customers that durable stock will not be available for the remainder of the 2026 license year and that printing will transition to standard paper only, and that customers who select paper licensing may also print their licenses at home.

Key Dates for the Mobile Licensing Transition

Date	What's Happening
December 1, 2025	Launch of MyWDFW & Fish Washington apps
Mid-March 2026	Dealer Communications Packet #1
Late April 2026	Dealer Communications Packet #2
July 8, 2026	Shift away from durable stock paper
July 8, 2026	Begin accepting returns of WDFW-provided POS equipment

What actions do dealers need to take?

- Review the **updated dealer contract** to confirm all terms.
- Review the **technical specifications** for dealer-owned equipment and prepare to provide your own computer and printer.
- Prepare for the **July 8, 2026 transition away from durable stock paper**; after this date, all printed materials will be produced on standard paper using dealer-owned printers.
- Return all **WDFW-owned equipment** using the process outlined in Communication Packet #2.
- Be prepared to explain the differences between **mobile and paper** licenses, including the end of durable stock and the requirement for customers to choose mobile or paper at the start of the license year.
- Remind customers that **once mobile is chosen, they must use the app for the entire license year**.
- Visit the dealer resource page at mywdfw.org/dealers using the password **dealers**.