



JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

M-2-2026

PROCLAMATION

RE: POUND NET SET CLOSURE PERIOD

This proclamation implements a pound net closure period for all Internal Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters except for portions of Albemarle and Currituck sounds (as described in Section I.).

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective at **6:00 P.M., Monday, January 19, 2026, the following restrictions will apply to pound net sets:**

I. AREA DESCRIPTION

All Internal Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters **except** for portions of Albemarle and Currituck sounds and their tributaries described as follows:

- A. In **Albemarle Sound**, the restrictions **do not apply** north and west of a line beginning at a point on the northwestern shore of Durant Island at 35° 57.5590' N - 75° 56.8200' W; running northeasterly to a point near Point Harbor at 36° 04.8280' N - 75° 47.4050' W.
- B. In **Currituck Sound**, the restrictions **do not apply** north of the Highway 158 Wright Memorial Bridge beginning at a point on the western shore at 36° 04.8280' N - 75° 47.4050' W; running easterly along the south side of the bridge to a point on the east shore at 36° 05.5770' N - 75° 44.5850' W.

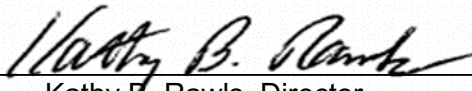
II. POUND NET SET CLOSURE PERIOD

In the area described in Section I. above, it shall be unlawful to fail to remove all nets from pound net sets effective at 6:00 P.M. Monday, January 19, 2026. This closure will be effective until 11:59 P.M., Saturday, January 31, 2026.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-134; 113-170.4; 113-170.5; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52; and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rules 15A NCAC 03H .0103 and 03J .0501.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under their delegated authority pursuant N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. The intent of this proclamation is to implement a pound net closure period in accordance with N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03J .0501 (f) which requires a pound net closure period between December 1 and February 1 each year in which all nets must be removed from pound net sets.
- D. In accordance with N.C. General Statute 113-221.1(c) All persons who may be affected by proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director are under a duty to keep themselves informed of current proclamations.

- E. Contact N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557, 252-515-5500 or 800-682-2632 for more information or visit the division website at <http://ncmarinefisheries.net/>.
- F. **This proclamation implements a pound net closure period for all Internal Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters except for portions of Albemarle and Currituck sounds (as described in Section I.).**

By: 
Kathy B. Rawls, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

January 9, 2026
12:35 P.M.