

ROY COOPER

Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS

Director

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, upon the recommendation of Betsey Tilson, M.D., M.P.H., State Health Director, Department of Health and Human Services, hereby announces that the following changes in shellfish harvesting areas will take effect at sunrise, Sunday, February 19, 2023.

All those waters in Pender and Onslow Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the February 12, 2023 temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

ONSLOW COUNTY

<u>Queens Creek - All those waters</u> in Queens Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 39.8479′N - 77° 09.1171′ W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 40.2031′N - 77° 08.4408′ W on the east shore near the State Park Boat Ramp.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER / CARTERET COUNTIES

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the east by a line beginning at a point 33° 54.2904′ N - 78° 23.6416′ W on the mainland near the Bricklanding Road Public Boat Ramp and IWW Beacon "84"; running southerly to a point 33° 54.1932′ N - 78° 23.6426′ W on Ocean Isle Beach near Ferry Landing Park; and bordered on the west by the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet.

<u>Shallotte River – All those waters in Shallotte River</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 33° 54.8302′ N - 78° 22.3626′ W near Bowen Point; running southeasterly to a point 33° 54.6139′ N - 78° 21.7667′ W on Long Point.

Lockwoods Folly River - All those waters north of a line beginning at a point 33° 55.5678′ N - 78° 13.8043′ W on the south shore of Spring Creek near the mouth; running easterly to a point 33° 55.4621′N - 78° 13.1714′ W near the northern tip of Sheep Island; thence running southeasterly to a point 33° 55.2284′N - 78° 12.7791′ W near the northwest point of Horse Island, to include a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway north of Horse and Sheep Islands.

<u>All those waters</u> in Myrtle Grove Sound bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 04.8476'N - 77° 53.0990' W on the mainland; running easterly near IWW Marker "155" to the southern tip of Masonboro Island at 34° 04.8251'N - 77° 52.9092' W; and bordered on the south by Snows Cut.

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> between IWW Marker "149" (34° 06.5162′N - 77° 52.4234′ W) near Peden Point and IWW Marker "155" (34° 04.8189′N - 77° 52.9654′ W) near Carolina Beach Inlet, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

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<u>All those waters</u> in the Intracoastal Waterway within 250 yards of the dredge spoil discharge pipe on US Army Corps of Engineers Spoil Island #254 near IWW Beacon "134", bounded by a line beginning at a point 34° 09.9631' N - 77° 50.6641' W on the spoil island south of the pipe, running northwesterly to a point 34° 10.0042' N - 77° 50.7691' W in the Intracoastal Waterway, thence running northeasterly to a point 34° 10.1854' N - 77° 50.6647' W in the Intracoastal Waterway, thence running southeasterly to a point 34° 10.1326' N - 77° 50.5335' W on the spoil island north of the pipe.

<u>Newport River - All those waters in Newport River</u> upstream of the Highway 70 High Rise Bridge and the Morehead-Beaufort Causeway, to include all tributaries and Core Creek.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 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 03K .0101.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the N.C. Fisheries Director under their delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. 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.
- D. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, and Chadwick Bay.
- E. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

February 18, 2023 1:00 P.M. PA-14-2023