



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, Friday, April 14, 2023.

All those waters in New Hanover and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the April 9, 2023 temporary closures, **except the following, which remain closed:**

NEW HANOVER / CARTERET COUNTIES

All those waters 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.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland 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.

All those waters 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.

All those waters in Middle Sound bordered on the north by the Figure Eight Island Bridge and bordered on the south by the Wrightsville Beach Bridge.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland, between the Emerald Isle High Rise Bridge and IWW Beacon "65A" (34° 32.7006' N - 77° 19.0487' W), located just west of Salliers Bay near New River Inlet, to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, and White Oak River.

Newport River – All those waters in Newport River upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 45.6960' N - 76° 43.5180' W on the south shore near Penn Point; running northerly to a point 34° 46.5349' N - 76° 43.5087' W on the west shore of Harlowe Creek.

Nelson Bay - All those waters in Nelson Bay upstream of a line from Drum Point to the northern tip of Fulchers Creek.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / PENDER / ONSLOW COUNTIES

All those waters 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.

Shallotte River – All those waters in Shallotte River 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.

All those waters bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 33.0934' N - 77° 21.6926' W on the mainland near Hatch Point, running easterly near Marker "76" to New River Inlet Channel Beacon "12", thence running southerly following the dredged channel to the eastern tip of North Topsail Beach at New River Inlet; and bordered on the south by the Surf City Bridge, to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, and Chadwick Bay.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland, between the Emerald Isle High Rise Bridge and IWW Beacon "65A" (34° 32.7006' N - 77° 19.0487' W), located just west of Salliers Bay near New River Inlet, to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, and White Oak River.

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. It should be noted that shellfish leases or franchises closed on or after April 4, 2023, to allow relaying of shellfish from closed areas remain closed.
- E. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: Greenville Sound, a portion of Newport River, Core Creek, North River, Ward Creek, Whitehurst Creek, Jarrett Bay, and Oyster Creek.
- F. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

BY:



Kathy B. Rawls, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

April 13, 2023
12:45 P.M.
PA-25-2023