

ROY COOPER

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, Saturday, April 15, 2023.

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

NEW HANOVER COUNTY

<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.

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.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

<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.

<u>Lockwoods Folly River - All those waters</u> 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.

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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 <u>shellfish leases or franchises</u> 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: Wrightsville Beach area, Stump Sound, Chadwick Bay, Sallier's Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, White Oak River, Newport River and Nelson Bay.
- F. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

April 13, 2023 11:55 A.M. PA-26-2023