

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 29, 2023.

All those waters in Brunswick County will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the April 23, 2023 temporary closures **except the following which remains closed:**

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

<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.

The following also remains closed:

NEW HANOVER / PENDER / ONSLOW COUNTIES

All those waters in Masonboro Sound and Greenville Sound bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 11.5660′N - 77° 49.6758′ W on the mainland; running southeasterly near IWW Marker "129" to a point 34° 11.3991′N - 77° 49.3386′ W on the south shore of Shinn Creek; thence running southeasterly to a point 34° 10.9146′N - 77° 48.9429′ W on the northern tip of Masonboro Island; and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 07.7706′N - 77° 52.0833′ W on the mainland near Peden Point; running easterly near IWW Marker "141" to a point 34° 07.6007′N - 77° 51.0328′ W on Masonboro Island.

<u>All those waters in Stump Sound</u> bordered on the north by the North Topsail High Rise Bridge, and bordered on the south by the Surf City Bridge.

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.

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- 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: Tubbs Inlet and Ocean Isle Beach.
- F. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

April 28, 2023 11:30 A.M. PA-32-2023