

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 change in a shellfish harvesting area will take effect at sunrise, Friday, June 2, 2023.

All those waters in Pender and Onslow Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the May 28, 2023 temporary closures, except the following which remain closed:

ONSLOW COUNTY

<u>Queens Creek - All those waters in Queens Creek</u> 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 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° 55.3874′ N - 78° 22.2861′ W on the western shore of the Shallotte River approximately 650 yards south of The Swash; running easterly to a point 33° 55.3385′ N - 78° 21.7279′ W on the eastern shore of the Shallotte River approximately 650 yards south of Shallotte Creek.

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the east by the permanent closure line near IWW Beacon "69"; and bordered on the west by a line beginning at a point 33° 54.6855′ N - 78° 21.3550′ W on the mainland; running southerly through IWW Marker "71" to a point 33° 54.4311′ N - 78° 21.2898′ W on Holden Beach near the end of Sea View Drive.

<u>Lockwoods Folly River</u> - 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.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-170.4; 113-170.5; 113-182; 113-

Page 2 PA-45-2023 Kathy B. Rawls

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 area to normal closure boundaries: Stump Sound.
- F. This opening is due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

June 1, 2023 1:25 P.M. PA-45-2023