

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 shellfish area temporary **closures** will **take effect immediately**.

It is unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take any oysters, clams or mussels or possess, sell or offer for sale any oysters, clams or mussels taken from the following polluted areas:

BRUNSWICK / CARTERET COUNTIES

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>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.

North River - All those waters in North River upstream of a straight line beginning at a point 34° 42.1302′ N - 76° 36.0815′ W at the permanent closure line near Beacon "5"; running northeasterly to a point 34° 43.2724′ N - 76° 34.5238′ W on the mainland at the Harker's Island Bridge at The Straits, to include Ward Creek.

<u>Whitehurst Creek – All those waters in Whitehurst Creek</u> upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 43.5146′ N - 76° 33.3428′ W on the west shore; running easterly to a point 34° 43.5511′ N - 76° 33.1664′ W on the east shore.

<u>Sleepy Creek – All those waters in Sleepy Creek</u> upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 43.2745' N - 76° 31.4600' W on the west shore; running easterly to a point 34° 43.2672' N - 76° 31.2792' W on the east shore.

<u>Jarrett Bay - All those waters in Jarrett Bay</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 45.8170' N - 76° 28.7579' W on the east shore of Spit Bay; thence in a straight line to a point 34° 45.3229' N - 76° 29.1273' W at the southern tip of Davis Island; thence in a straight line near Flashing Beacon #36 to a point 34° 43.7805' N - 76° 30.0180' W the southeast end of Bells Island; thence in a straight line to a point 34° 43.5461' N - 76° 30.3917' W on the Marshallberg shoreline.

<u>Oyster Creek - All those waters in Oyster Creek</u> upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 48.8185' N - 76° 26.9761' W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 48.9768' N - 76° 26.6340' W on the east shore.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

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<u>All those waters</u> between the permanent closure line near IWW Marker "89" in Ocean Isle, and the South Carolina State Line, to include the Tubbs Inlet area.

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. These temporary closures are due to heavy rainfall and resultant runoff.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

August 28, 2023 8:05 A.M. PA-75-2023