



PA-77-2023

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, Thursday, September 7, 2023.

All those waters in New Hanover, Pender, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the August 28 and August 31, 2023 temporary closures, **except the following which remain closed:**

NEW HANOVER / PENDER / CARTERET COUNTIES

All those waters between Snows Cut and the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet, Shallotte River, Lockwoods Folly River, Bald Head Creek, and Cape Fear River.

All those waters in Myrtle Grove Sound bordered on the north 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; and bordered on the south 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.

All those waters bordered on the northeast by the permanent closure line near Fort Macon, and bordered on the southwest by the Surf City Bridge, to include Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, Chadwick Bay, New River, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, White Oak River, and Bogue Sound.

Newport River – All those waters in Newport River upstream of the Highway 70 High Rise Bridge and the Morehead-Beaufort Causeway, to include all tributaries and Core Creek.

All those waters bordered in the east by a line beginning at Long Shoal Point, running southwesterly to the southern tip of Hog Island; thence running southwesterly to Bluff Point; thence running westerly to the southern tip of Great Island Marsh; thence running southwesterly to Maw Point, thence running southeasterly to Flashing Beacon "NR", thence running southerly to Point of Marsh, thence running southeasterly to Point of Grass, thence following the shoreline of Cedar Island to the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, to include Long Bay, West Bay, Turnagain Bay, Neuse River, South River, Adams Creek, Bay River, Jones Bay Pamlico River, Pungo River, Spencer Bay, Rose Bay, Swanquarter Bay, Juniper Bay, Wysocking Bay, and Long Shoal River.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / ONSLOW / CRAVEN / PAMLICO / BEAUFORT / HYDE / DARE COUNTIES

All those waters between Snows Cut and the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet, Shallotte River, Lockwoods Folly River, and Cape Fear River.

All those waters bordered on the northeast by the permanent closure line near Fort Macon, and bordered on the southwest by the Surf City Bridge, to include Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, Chadwick Bay, New River, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, White Oak River, and Bogue Sound.

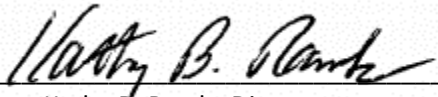
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All those waters bordered on the north and west by a line beginning at a point 35° 28.2328' N - 75° 29.0549' W on the Outer Banks, running westerly to a point 35° 28.2938' N - 75° 31.2790' W on Gull Island; thence running southwesterly to Brooks Point.

All those waters bordered on the north and west by a line beginning at Brooks Point, running southwesterly to the southern tip of DOT Island near Hatteras Inlet at 35° 12.1796' N - 75° 45.6698' W; thence running southwesterly to Channel Marker "6" off Ocracoke Village; thence running southwesterly to the northern tip of Beacon Island at 35° 05.9383' N - 76° 02.8513' W; thence running southeasterly to the southern tip of Ocracoke Island.

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. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: A portion of Myrtle Grove Sound, a portion of Masonboro Sound, Middle Sound, Topsail Sound, North River, Ward Creek, Back Sound, Straits, Whitehurst Creek, Sleepy Creek, Jarrett Bay, Oyster Creek, Brett Bay, Nelson Bay, Thorofare Bay, Cedar Island Bay, and Core Sound.
- E. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

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

September 6, 2023
12:30 P.M.
PA-77-2023