

ROY COOPER
Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS

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, Wednesday, March 13, 2024.

All those waters in Brunswick, Onslow, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the March 2 and March 6, 2024 temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u>, between IWW Beacon "58" (34° 37.9496' N - 77° 12.3023' W) near Bear Creek, and IWW Beacon "63" (34° 35.7569' N - 77° 14.6129' W) near Browns Inlet, to include the Intracoastal Waterway and Browns Creek.

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> between IWW Beacon "49" (34° 40.2621' N - 77° 07.9802' W) near Swansboro, and IWW Beacon "55" (34° 38.5749'N - 77° 10.8033' W), to include the Intracoastal Waterway and Queens Creek.

<u>White Oak River - All those waters in White Oak River</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 41.9497' N - 77° 06.9846' W on the west shore; running easterly near the northern tip of Jones Island to a point 34° 41.9395' N - 77° 05.6599' W on the east shore.

<u>Newport River - All those waters in Newport River</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 45.6960' N - 76° 43.5180' W on the south shore near Penn Point; running northeasterly to a point 34° 46.5733' N - 76° 42.6350' W on the north shore near the Hardesty Farms subdivision (near the Newport River DMF Shrimp Line).

<u>Core Creek – All those waters in Core Creek</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 46.3210' N - 76° 41.2515' W on the west shore, running easterly near IWW Marker "25" to a point 34° 46.2251' N - 76° 40.5919' W on the east shore near the mouth of Ware Creek.

<u>North River - All those waters in North River</u> 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.

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 his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.

Page 2 PA-15-2024 Kathy B. Rawls

- 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: Tubbs Inlet, Ocean Isle Beach, Lockwoods Folly River, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, and a portion of the White Oak River.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

March 12, 2024 12:30 P.M. PA-15-2024