



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, Friday, January 5, 2024.

All those waters in New Hanover, Pender, Onslow, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the December 11, December 18, and December 28, 2023 temporary closures, **except the following which remain closed:**

### **PENDER / ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES**

**All those waters** in Stump Sound bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 28.2180' N - 77° 30.5521' W on the mainland near Morris Landing, running southeasterly near Beacon "49" to a point on Topsail Island at 34° 27.273' N - 77° 29.937' W; and bordered on the south by the Surf City Bridge.

**All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland** in Stump Sound between the North Topsail High Rise Bridge and Beacon "49" near Morris Landing, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

**Queens Creek - All those waters** in Queens Creek 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.

**White Oak River - All those waters** in White Oak River upstream of the Highway 24 Bridge at Swansboro.

**The following also remains closed:**

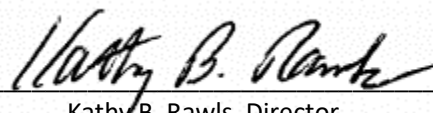
### **BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

**All those waters** between IWW Beacon "1" near Southport and the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet, Shallotte River, the Shallotte Inlet Area, Lockwoods Folly River, and the Lockwoods Folly 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. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: Topsail Sound, Old Topsail Creek, Virginia Creek, Beckys Creek, and Bear Creek.

E. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

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

January 4, 2024  
10:45 A.M.  
PA-2-2024