



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, Saturday, January 6, 2024.

All those waters in Brunswick, Pender, and Onslow 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:**

**BRUNSWICK / ONSLOW COUNTIES**

**All those waters** 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.

**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.

**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.

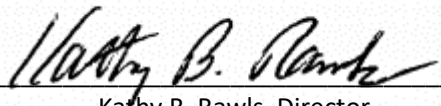
**The following also remains closed:****CARTERET COUNTY**

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

**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: Tubbs Inlet, Ocean Isle Beach, Shallotte River, Shallotte Inlet Area, Lockwoods Folly Inlet Area, and Stump Sound.
- E. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

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

January 5, 2024  
12:30 P.M.  
PA-3-2024