

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 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 / NEW HANOVER / PENDER / ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the north by the Figure Eight Island Bridge and bordered on the south by the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet, Shallotte River, the Shallotte Inlet Area, Lockwoods Folly River, the Lockwoods Folly Inlet Area, Cape Fear River, Bald Head Island, Myrtle Grove Sound, Masonboro Sound, Middle Sound, and Pages Creek.

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> between the Surf City Bridge and the Figure Eight Island Bridge, to include the Intracoastal Waterway, a portion of Topsail Sound, Old Topsail Creek, Virginia Creek, and Beckys Creek.

<u>All those waters</u> 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.

<u>All those waters</u> in Back Sound bordered on the northeast by a line beginning at Shell Point on Harkers Island, running southeasterly to a point on Core Banks at 34° 40.0815' N - 76° 29.5598' W; and bordered in the west by the permanent closure line at Fort Macon.

<u>All those waters</u> in South River upstream of a line beginning at Sandy Point; running easterly near Beacon "1" to Horton Point.

The following also remains closed:

CARTERET / CRAVEN / PAMLICO COUNTIES

<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.

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All those waters bordered on the east and south by a line beginning at a point 34° 54.2203' N -76° 18.8592' W near Hall Point in Atlantic, running southeasterly to Beacon "20"; thence running southwesterly to Beacon "33" in Core Sound; thence running southwesterly to Green Marker "37" off Jarrett Bay; thence running southwesterly to Shell Point on Harkers Island; thence running westerly following the south shore of Harkers Island to a point 34° 42.0981' N - 76° 35.0718' W; thence running westerly to a point 34° 42.1302' N - 76° 36.0815' W at the permanent closure line near Beacon "5", to include North River, Ward Creek, Whitehurst Creek, Sleepy Creek, the Straits, Jarrett Bay, Oyster Creek, Brett Bay, Nelson Bay, and a portion of Core Sound.

<u>All those waters</u> in Thorofare Bay west of a line beginning at Lookout Point, running across Thorofare Bay to Hall Point near Atlantic.

All those waters in Rumley Bay upstream of a line running from Long Point to Lookout Point.

Adams Creek - All those waters in Adams Creek upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 57.2754' N - 76° 42.4146' W near Great Neck Point; running northeasterly to a point 34° 58.0929' N - 76° 40.5944' W near Winthrop Point.

<u>Bay River - All those waters in Bay River and Jones Bay</u> bordered on the northwest by the Hobucken Bridge; and bordered on the east by a line running from Sow Island Point to Bay Point to Maw Point.

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.
- 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

September 17, 2024 8:05 A.M. PA-90-2024